

Letters From Mr. Royster

Newsletter, April 2, 2016 No. 195

We have now heard from the manufacturer of so much really interesting kitsch and such things as "Wewelsburg Toilet Paper Holders," "Eva Braun Napkin Rings" and whole trays of Really Precious (and Rare) German pseudo-military and political rings. How many dealers in these items have written furiously to him is unknown but soon, the auction houses will have empty shelves.

This fellow has ruined a legion of pocket watches and cameras. His lawyer is going to make us take these down! We love to get semi-literate letters from Sid Flores, Shopping Mall lawyer. We sell these to winos for use as toilet paper.

Here are more Rare and Precious items for your entertainment. If you would like to be put on his mailing list, you should write him at: germanww2@gmail.com





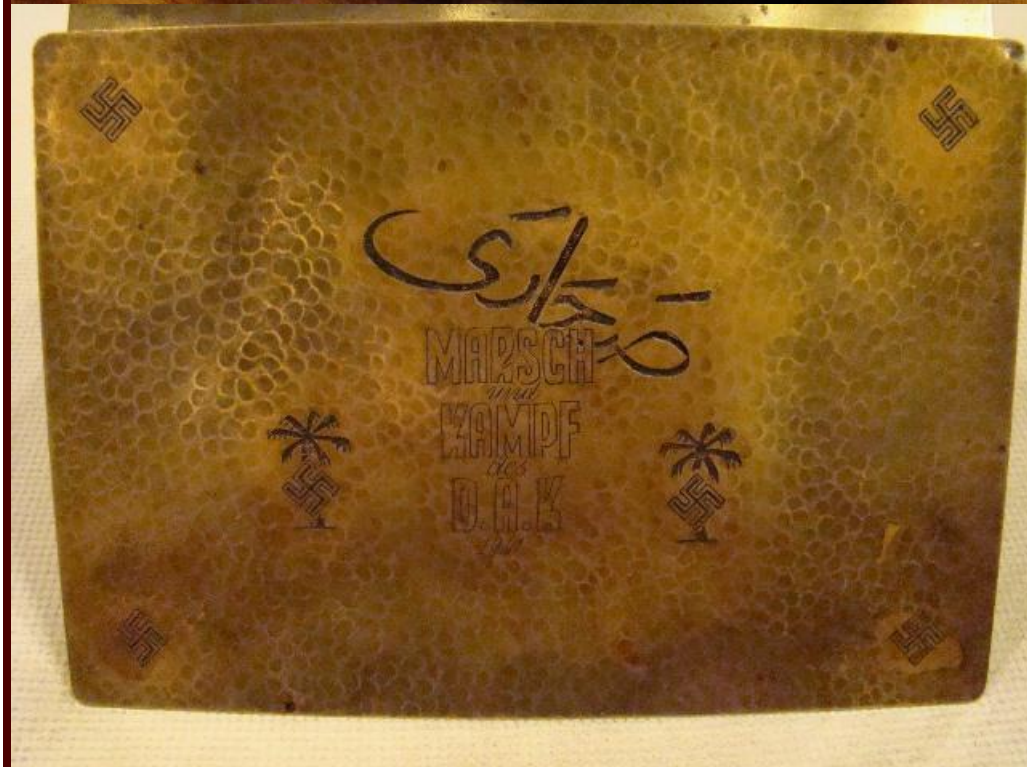














Newsletter, March 21, 2016 No. 194

Here are some items of recent manufacture which you may find on your local retailer's shelf. We post them so you will know they were not sourced from a dying vet's estate.

If you would like to be added to the vendor's mailing list, he would welcome you. You can find these items and others like them by subscribing to the mailing list at germanww2@gmail.com.















Newsletter, February 26, 2016 No. 193

Newsletter February 23, 2016 No. 192

Here is a most informative communication which recently appeared on the Wehrmacht Awards Forum about a prominent dealer, Germania International of Lakemont, Georgia. It is always instructive to discover such information from the collecting world.

If a bridge has fallen down into the river below, a warning sign on the road is always necessary.

Awhile ago I came across a grouping that came from an estate. One was a framed Hoffman studio portrait of Adolf Hitler that had a promising autograph that didnt get a single negative vote on this site, which was a good sign. Getting it authenticated however was a chore. Someone suggested Germania International.

So I sent detailed photos to that site and was advised by owner to consign it with him, he would list it and anything it brought over my asking price he would keep for himself!! Yeah right, thats going to happen!

So off to Show of Shows where I run into the owner of Germania International and offer to trade the photo for a Japanese sword and German sword on his table. He tells me that if I want to consign it, thats fine, but to trade he would have to have it authenticated by two people.

So basically he will stick it to anyone on the internet but for actual purchase/trade he needs several experts.

Well I go back to my tables, and who do I see a row over but Don Boyle! Don was extremely helpful, examined my signature, explained it was an example where Hitler signed while standing up and showed examples that lined up exactly over my example! So many thanks to Don Boyle, I got an authentication letter, which always helps.

Don was also confronted by Mr. Germania and accused of ruining his deal with me! He admitted immediately knowing autograph was authentic.

What a dirtbag!

Also thanks to Don Bible who put me on the right path with Boyle!

Stay away from Germania International!

Newsletter February 21, 2016 No. 191

Here is a watercolor, 53x40, that appeared in the Price book on Hitler's art as Number 400.



It is based, entirely, on an aerial photograph of Ludwig II's fantasy castle, 'Neuschwanstein' taken in 1921 and sold throughout Germany at that time. This work is supposed to have been done in 1914.

This 'Neuschwanstein' watercolor is not a fake but it is misattributed in that it was not painted by Hitler and his name has been added long after the alleged date of execution

The Price book has 723 allegedly "original Hitler works" displayed and of these, at the least, 490

are bad fakes.

Hitler never did portraits, pictures of flowers nor ever painted in oils.

After the First War, Hitler never painted again but did do pen and ink architectural studies.

Albert Speer did a number of these after the war so provenance is vital.

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Newsletter January 23, 2016 No. 190

Some time ago, we ran an illustrated story about a presentation sword given to Hermann Goering by the staff of his Panzer division.



This sword belonged to a Mr. Vermont Trotter from Idaho.

He decided to auction the sword and sent it to an auction house in Florida. They happily accepted it along with the authenticating documents for placement in their auction and they insured it for a large sum of money.

As is outlined below, suddenly, and without notice, the auction house sent the sword back

broken and failed to return the authenticating documents. In an attached letter, their lawyer said it broke during "initial inspection".

Although Mr. Trotter has asked for his documents to be returned, the auction house has refused. They also have refused to pay him for destroying what was a very valuable historical piece nor will they facilitate his filing a claim against their insurance company for recompense.

Finally, after exhausting all avenues of approach, Mr. Trotter filed an official complaint with the state of Florida against the auction house. His complaint very clearly explains his problem and we thought that such business practices are to be strongly condemned.

Here is Mr. Trotter's official complaint:

Gentlemen:

My name is Vermont Trotter and I reside in Coeur d'Alene Idaho. Several years ago, I was given German officer's dress sword from a family member. It had been purchased, many years earlier by a relative from a dealer in militaria out of New Hampshire. As I have no interest in such items, I thought I could see if I might find a market for this piece.

I had been introduced to a militaria dealer in Georgia through a friend. This dealer's name is Robert Johnson and he lives in Lakemont, Georgia. When asked his advice on selling the sword, he at once recommended Affiliated Auctions of Tallahassee, Florida. He said Mr. Whitworth, the owner, was an old and valued friend and he had sold "many rare and valuable items" of the second world war period through his auction house.

In the first week of September, 2015, I contacted Affiliated Auctions and asked them if they might be interested in this piece. They asked for more information. I sent them several pictures of the piece and copies of documentation which accompanied it. Once they saw the pictures, they expressed a great deal of interest in placing the piece in their auction going as far as to offer to drive to Coeur d'Alene from Tallahassee to pick it up.

About a week later, they received both the sword and the documentation from me through Federal Express. Both Mr. Whitworth and his employee expressed great satisfaction telling me the sword had belonged to Hermann Goering and was very valuable. With the official documents, Mr. Whitworth of Affiliated Auctions told me the sword would sell at auction for between "eighty to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars." We all agreed there was no way to tell for sure and that only an auction could determine the true value. They sent me a contract for placing the sword in the auction and stated in that contract they were insuring it for \$100,000.

The auction house advised me that the sword, which was now in their possession, was to be photographed and placed in their October catalogue. Mr. Whitworth told me he would contact me in the middle of October before the auction to confirm my approval for final details such as minimum reserves. In the middle of October, I contacted the auction and they told me they had moved the sale up to the November auction. Their stated reason was that they thought it would sell better just after Thanksgiving rather than just before Halloween. I figured they knew best.

In the middle of November of 2015, without notice of any kind, Affiliated Auctions returned the sword to me but did not return the authenticating documentation. The sword had a smashed hilt. Its value, ruined. Taped to the outside of the box was an envelope marked "Please Read Contents" Inside this was an envelope with a letter from Craig B. Willis of the Law Firm Fixel & Willis of Tallahassee FL. It was written on the behalf of their client, Affiliated Auctions.

The letter from the attorney claimed that upon initial examination while the sword was under the care, custody and control of Affiliated Auctions, the cross guard "fell apart". This information runs contrary to their enthusiasm about the prospects of an auction and calls into question why they didn't mention this when we spoke both immediately after their initial examination and several weeks later in October.

John Whitworth, Affiliated Auctions and their attorney have refused to return my documents to me in spite of my repeated written requests nor have they confirmed they have initiated my claim to their insurance company to recover the value of the destroyed artifact. Through their attorney, they offered me \$500 dollars recompense provided I returned the destroyed sword to them. I did not accept.

In sum, the auction house took the sword and the accompanying documentation to place in their auction for our mutual benefit and their evident pleasure. Somehow, by parties and means unknown, they broke the sword and they refuse to return the rest of my property to me.

I wish to bring these matters to your attention and hope you can assist me in this unfortunate and costly business. I thank you for your time and courtesy and I am,
Yours most sincerely.

Newsletter January 21, 2016 No. 189

Happy New Year~! We start out this new year with a guest article from two of our readers, Sven, along with his able #1 Stendec. We found their research to be impeccable and just had to share;

The “Wiking” unissued drakkar bow Kragenspiegel

By Sven & Stendec

The drakkar bow / wiking ship bow design was approved by the Reichsfuhrer-SS on March 3, 1943 for the “Wiking” division (source : Pages 52 and 53, “Foreign Legions of the Third Reich Vol. 1”, David Littlejohn, Bender Publishing, 1979).

For an unknown reason the drakkar bow Kragenspiegel was unissued and never used in the field (no pictures of it in wear are known). To the contrary of the “Joan of Arc sword” model for the “Charlemagne” brigade/division (which stayed a “projected design”), this drakkar bow model was manufactured (at least by the company August Menzs & Sohn of Wien, RZM code 118) and originals were found in the Waffen-SS warehouses of Dachau.

Some originals for enlisted men have a sticker with RZM markings, most seemed to be partly sewed on the back. To date two serial numbers are known : 379967 and 380523.

It is not firmly confirmed that a version for officer exists.







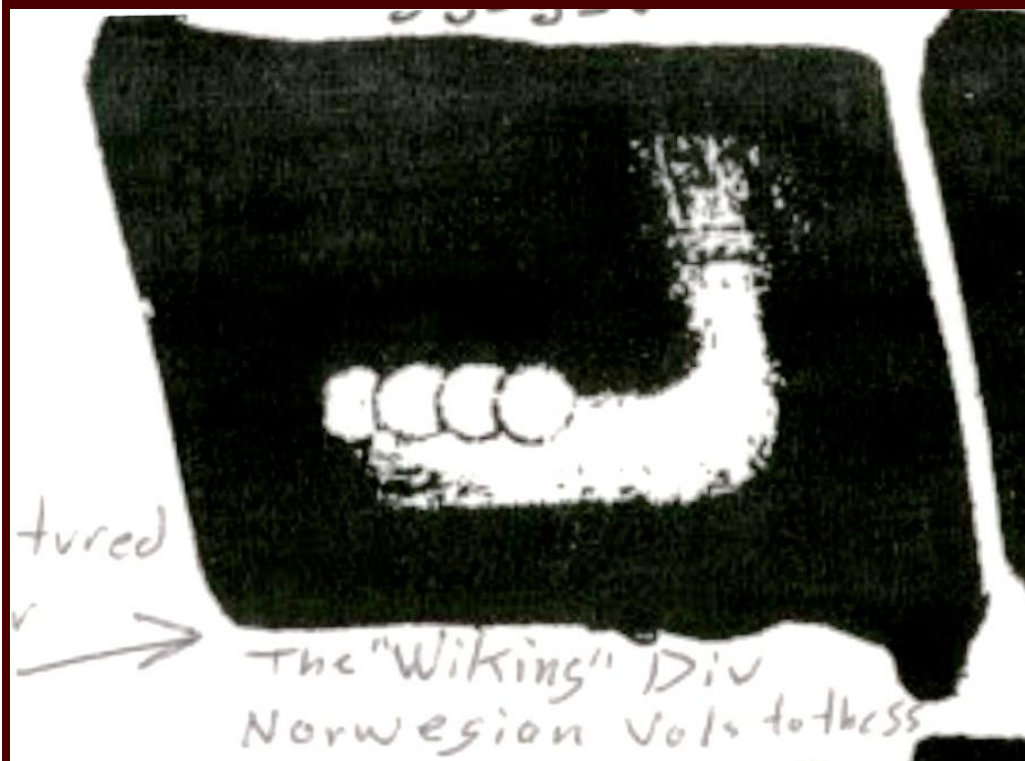






Pictures 1a/1aa, 1b/1bb, 1c/1cc, 1d/dd and 1e/1ee

Originals for enlisted men (1a/1aa to 1d/1dd). The model for officer (1e/1ee) is not 100 % confirmed as original (and may be a fake ? Note the lack of twined cord piping). Please note the threads on the corners, and the RZM sticker on some of them. The value of an original is up to a few hundred of euros. Pictures 1a/1aa courtesy of an unknown collector (Wehrmacht-Awards forum), pictures 1b/1bb courtesy of TomH (Wehrmacht-Awards forum), pictures 1c/1cc courtesy of RobertE (Wehrmacht-Awards forum), pictures 1d/dd courtesy of D Davies (Wehrmacht-Awards forum), picture 1e/1ee courtesy of Oakleafmilitaria.

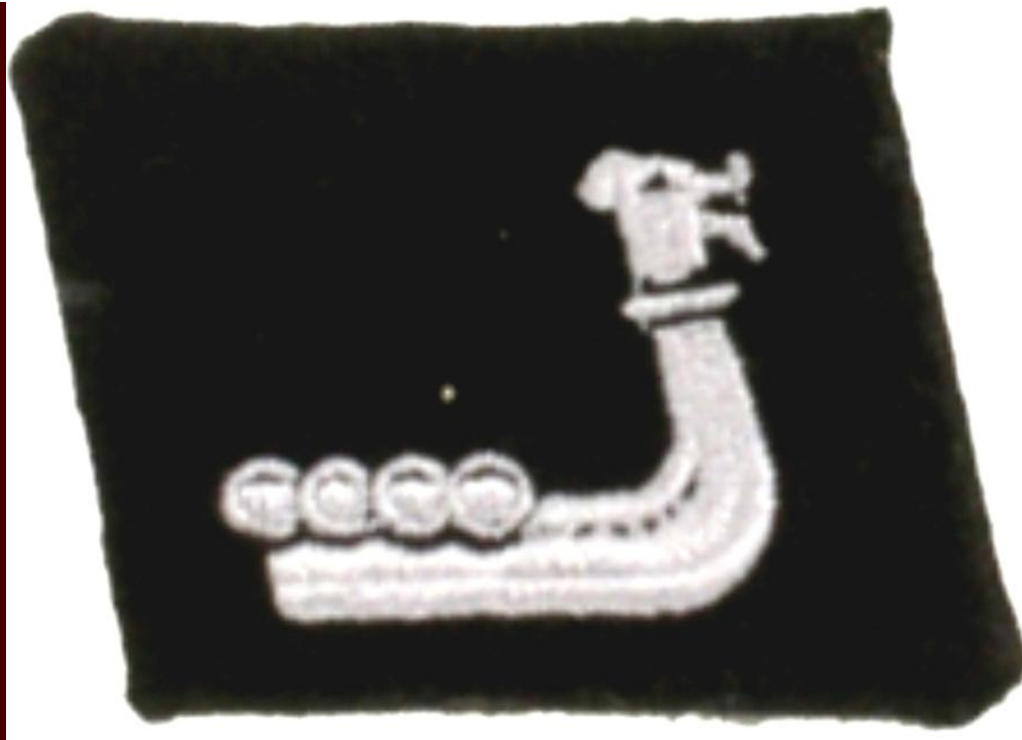


Picture 2

Document taken from the archives of the 45th Infantry Division's museum (Oklahoma City, OK), which liberated the Dachau concentration camp on April 29, 1945. Vast stocks of SS insignas were found there. This is not known if the pictured Kragenspiegel was found by the U.S. Army intelligence officers in 1945 or if it was gathered over the years with the help of the veterans from the division. Courtesy of PAB_Collector (Wehrmacht-Awards forum).

Original map by the Germanische Leitstelle and dated of February 1st, 1945. We can see that Kragenspiegel in wear are included with projected ones and others that were not sent to the troop, or that were scarcely in wear. The drakkar bow type is not present on the map. A reversed version of the map was published in the Kurt-Gerhard Klietmann 1965 book “Die Waffen-SS. Eine dokumentation” (Der Freiwillige GmbH Verlag).





Picture 5

Reproduction (for enlisted man, currently the best repro), proposed on Soldier Of Fortune for 7.99 gbp.

<http://www.sofmilitary.co.uk/5th-div-wiking-collar-tabs-product,4446>



Picture 6

Reproduction (for enlisted man), proposed on The History Bunker for 12.99 gbp.
http://www.thehistorybunker.co.uk/acatalog/SS_Foreign_Volunteers_collar_tabs.html



Newsletter December 28, 2015 No. 188

Here:



we have a thrilling relic for your very own elegant collection! And what is it? Not a door-mat for your bathroom or a rug for the dog but the actual, genuine (guaranteed!) "Heinrich Himmler Personal Tapestry" found by an American GI in the "ruins of the Reichschancellery in Berlin in 1945."

And this is now for sale (or has been sold, it's hard to tell) by a prominent, and theoretically very respectable institution for only \$200,000!

Unfortunately, the dealer who had this modern fake made up does not realize that the Americans did not occupy the Reichschancellery in 1945 but the Russians did and we now know that the same dealer who invented this silly story also makes "SS tapestries."

Interested collectors ought to locate copies of "Kunst im Deutschen Reich," a period magazine showing original Third Reich artwork including carved wooden boxes, Knights Cross formal documents, paintings, sculpture and other such items. The originals are always of far higher

quality than the modern fakes.

When a period color picture of the original Grand Cross of the Iron Cross document was found in this magazine, and published, it was compared with pictures published of the fake that had been sold to a rich Chinese in Hong Kong for a million dollars, a visual comparison proved clearly the Chinese scam piece was a very bad copy.

Crooked dealers hope their suckers never do any research (or read our articles) or they would soon be back working at MacDonalds scrubbing the lavatories.

Newsletter December 21, 2015 No. 187

“Führer Begleit Brigade Tableware”

Here we have an interesting collection of allegedly rare tableware, purported to have belonged to the 'Führer-Begleit-Brigade' mess.



This unit was raised in November of 1944 at the Führer-Hauptquartier at Rastenburg in East Prussia. This unit was formed originally as the Führer-Begleit—Bln on 1. October, 1939.

The standard depicted on these pieces is the Hitler standard and not the standard of the original battalion

During the war, the dinnerware at the FHQ was plain and devoid of markings. It should be noted

that Hitler ate from the standard unmarked china and used the same steel utensils as the rest of the staff.

There exists a quantity of silver with the letters “AH” and the state eagle but these pieces were state silver, found in many office buildings and were not Hitler's personal silver. Period color pictures of Hitler's dinner table at the Berghof, laid for company, show clearly that the dinnerware was not market and neither were any of the crystal drinking glasses or napkins.

Newsletter December 17, 2015 No. 186

There has been a thriving market in allegedly “rare and original” rings from the Third Reich period. These range from all kinds of SS items, Panzer, DAK, Luftwaffe and Kriegsmarine subjects.

Here we show an advertisement from a Polish company who makes these fantasy items, along with a number they buy from other firms.



The American company, Reddick Militaira, also makes these rings but clearly advertises them as copies. This is not so with many dealers in exotica who either buy from manufacturers as reproduction or fantasy pieces, and sell as rare, original period pieces.

It was possible, during the Third Reich to buy such items in stores or from the unit PX but these were not as gaudy as the new pieces and were never presented.

We have the same situation with the so-called “Dress Bayonet” of the Wehrmacht, Heer and Luftwaffe. These existed during the period but were private purchase pieces, never officially

issued, and could only be worn by enlisted men on their walking-out uniforms while off duty. They were never worn on parade dress and were never an official issue. Occasionally, a unit commander would commission a bayonet as a presentation piece to a soldier for marksmanship or similar achievement but again, these are all private purchase pieces, and while original, are not official.

If you would like to purchase these items direct rather than dealing with the dealer mark-up, we would encourage you to investigate [Reddick Militaria](#) here in the US or, in the case of the rings above, contact the vendor at germanww2@gmail.com. If you ask, he will put you on his mailing list and you can see for yourself the items he has for sale.

Newsletter December 3, 2015 No. 185

The Honor Role Clasp of the Army Ehrenblattspange (Heer)

Instituted on January 30, 1944 for soldiers who had been listed in the Honor Roll of the Army. (Ehrenblatt des Heeres) 4,556 were issued.

The decoration consisted of a 24 mm wide gold oakleaf wreath with a non-mobile swastika in the center.



This decoration was worn on an Iron Cross 2nd class ribbon and was worn in the second button hole from the top of standard military uniforms.

The metal wreath was held to the ribbon by two metal strips soldered to the reverse.

These decorations came in a black box with artificial white silk lining on the top inside of the

box. All presentation boxes had small impressed stamps of Otto Klein, consisting of a 'K' in a circle and the encircled horizontal chevrons of the city of Hanau where Klein had its offices.

These logos were die-stamped into the white-flocked base which contained the decoration.

Newsletter November 29, 2015 No. 184

On at least two of the allegedly important militaria blogs, we have been looking at a tempest in a teapot. This concerns the so-called 'Champagne' semi-obliterated decal on an SS helmet.

It is very entertaining to read the pseudo-scientific comments, complete with close-up pictures, letters authenticating it from involved dealers and other time-wasters. There seems to be an enormous amount of illustrated chatter about SS helmet insignia so perhaps a rational view of these might be in order.

Original transfers (not decals) were not soaked in water and slapped on a repainted helmet. They were glued in place and then, when the glue set, water was applied to the paper cover, cover, not backing, and this was loosened and the paper slid off. Following this, a clear lacquer was applied, by hand, to the transfer. Try putting a piece of transparent sticky tape over a suspect "decal" and then pull it off. A modern decals will peel off but an original will not.

Deliberate attempts to age a new decal show little imagination.

Also, the original red color on the SS state shield (and the Polizei) was a cadmium or orange-red. Decal makers now make their fakes in cadmium, but only after I discussed this on this site.

Note that after September of 1939, only the branch of service transfer appeared on new helmets and the state shield was ordered removed from earlier models.

An M-40 helmet with double transfers would be a fake.

I have seen an M-42 helmet with double transfers!

And in 1943, even the branch of service transfer was removed, by order.

The little girls who infest the worthless babbling blogs are far too stupid to study the official orders, hence we can see a double transfer "SS paratrooper" helmet!

The SS Fallschirmjaeger units were formed after all transfers were removed and I have seen many pictures, one in an album I own, of SS paratroopers wearing field equipment. I saw one Luftwaffe emblem on many helmets and no SS transfer. And although an HBT dot pattern SS smock was made at Dachau, it was never issued. These men wore Luftwaffe equipment but I have seen SS belt buckles and Luftwaffe ones worn by the same group of men.

Maybe one of the high-end fakers will come up with a "Just-found-in-a Georgia-barn!" SS Fallschirmjaeger belt buckle.

This will get up on the WAF for all the ninnies to coo over, or spit on, and some chinless wonder will buy one because he sees it in a book. The book is designed solely to sell fakes to the boobery. And many “distinguished” dealers and collectors will give it places of honor on their tables and in their illustrated lists.

But the alarmed suckers aren't buying and the sellers of fakes, hundreds of them, are starting to look for work at MacDonalds.

Newsletter November 21, 2015 No. 183

Here we have something that is old but new. We received a well-illustrated message from an advanced SS document collector in Europe, exposing a faked SS bookplate.

This is a recent copy of the original "Oberbayern" library plate and is being pasted into original Third Reich period books and sold for very high prices. The perpetrator has reproduced this interesting item and is reaping the rewards of his perfidy.

The outraged European collector wrote:

"...Germania International are now offering original German WW II period books with the "Oberbayern" ex-libris/bookplates

Here are some actual listed examples of original publications which now have added counterfeit “Oberbayern” bookplates

The books sporting the reproduced plate are:

1. The 'Germanische Freiwilligen' published in 1943 is usually worth 100 to 150 euros in very good condition

(It is a bit strange to see an "Oberbayern" bookplate on the "Germanische Freiwilligen Im Westen" that already has the stamp of a local library in Amberg! Amberg is located 135km north of Dachau, original location of the "Oberbayern Standarte.”)

2. 'Der Krise Der Alten Welt', published in 1942 is another Germania International offering with the counterfeit bookplate, and is worth 5 euros on Zvab.com

3. 'Geheimnis Tibet' (Himmler SS edition 1943) is worth 100 euros on Zvab, but probably less elsewhere.

It should be noted that the "Oberbayern Standarte" was disbanded in the first months of 1940 so there was no library after that date and original German books published later than that date would never have been found in a non-extant institution!"

These bookplates were reproduced in the early 1980s, and we are showing a picture of a book which has the original stamp of the library of the Dachau Library, with the property stamp "SS Standartbucherei Dachau" etc. with the Inventarisiert number, etc. The fake "Oberbayern" bookplates are definitely copies of the original but the swastikas behind the death's head lack the definition seen in the original.

And here we have an original bookplate from the collection of Dr. Frank D. Thayer with the period library stamps above the plate.

44. Standortbücherei Dachau
Der Sammlungsfunktion des 1. 33. Totenkopfstandart
„Oberbayern“
Inventarisiert Nr. 1604
Abt. 26 Buch Nr. 15

**Aus der
Bücher-Reihe der**



**44-Totenkopf-
Standarte
„Oberbayern“**

A reproduction of an original bookplate courtesy of Dr. Frank Thayer

Newsletter November 16, 2015 No. 182

We recently received a long letter, complete with pictures, of two new frauds being foisted off on the public. One of these is the so-called "Himmler chair," a carved wooden straight backed chair

allegedly belonging to SS Chief Himmler. There are at least four of them, one appearing in the Rock Island auction recently.



Unfortunately for the eager collector, these chairs are modern fakes, made in Austria by a woodcarver living just outside of Salzburg, Austria named Alois Theiss. None of these atrocities are exactly the same and Herr Theiss sells them to an American dealer for € 500. These monstrosities are all slightly different and all are of different woods, disproving the American dealer's claims that they are part of a set.

The next atrocious fake is an alleged wall scone from the Wewelsburg SS headquarters. It is supposed to be created by German artisans of the period and clandestinely removed from the castle by persons unknown and sold to the same America dealer responsible for trying to foist off the "Himmler chair" on the collecting public.



In fact, this abortion was produced out of sheet metal by a motorcycle shop repair owner in Bethesda, Maryland as a joke. If you buy it, the joke will be on you.

The same dealer has had a Russian jeweler manufacture scores of silver "rare Third Reich rings," None of these are original to the period and most are copies of "replica rings" sold as post war copies by Reddick Militaria for far less than the current merchandiser charges his gullible customers.

Some of the most amazing abortions can be found on the Internet and we will be bringing you many more of these in the future. We now have a fully-illustrated catalog of Polish-made

pseudo-Third Reich kitch hyped as "rare Nazi art work." Napkin rings, fake SS dinnerware, small statues abound and we must not forget the "Adolf Hitler china and crystal glasses" that you can own for only a few hundred dollars.

When the unlamented Charlie Snyder went to his reward, his stained mantel as chief merchant of mis-attributed and fake glitterati passed to another one.

Newsletter Oct 31, 2015 No. 181

Auction houses have been offering a number of purported Hitler paintings for sale. The only reference book on this subject is *Adolf Hitler As Artist And Draughtsman*, by Billy F. Price, a millionaire Houston pump manufacturer and published in 1985. This was also published in the same year as "Adolf Hitler, als Maler und Zeichner."

This coffee-table book of over 550 pages, shows hundred of oil and watercolor paintings and sketches all purportedly drawn by Adolf Hitler. There are over 500 such illustrations but regretfully, over 100 are the handiwork of one Conrad Kujau who, along with his employer Wolfgang Schulze, created the notorious Hitler Diaries and sold hundred of purportedly original Hitler works of art to Price, and others.

Hitler only painted in watercolors, never in oils. The legion of purported Hitler paintings in oil are period paintings bought for little money from Austrian and south German antique shops then later signed with Hitler's name. Insofar as the signatures are concerned, Hitler always signed his name in block letters so cursive script signatures are a sign of a deliberately mis-attributed work.

Here we have two samples of this sort of fraud.

The first picture is of the Karlskirche in Vienna. This is an excellent winter scene of the famous church but is far superior to Hitler's work.



The second



is a street scene in Vienna but has excellent depictions of people, something Hitler could not do. He was a competent architectural artist but he never painted portraits and his views of Vienna had small figures added that were stiff and always out of scale.

As comparison, see the picture Hitler actually *did* paint of a dressing station in France in 1915. This original picture recently was sold for an undisclosed sum to a German collector. You can find a write up of it under the Newsletter No. 174 of July 23, 2015 below.



After the First World War, Hitler never again did watercolor studies. He did, however, do many brief sketches of projected buildings. His architect, Albert Speer, delighted to make similar sketches, after the war which he sold to the gullible.

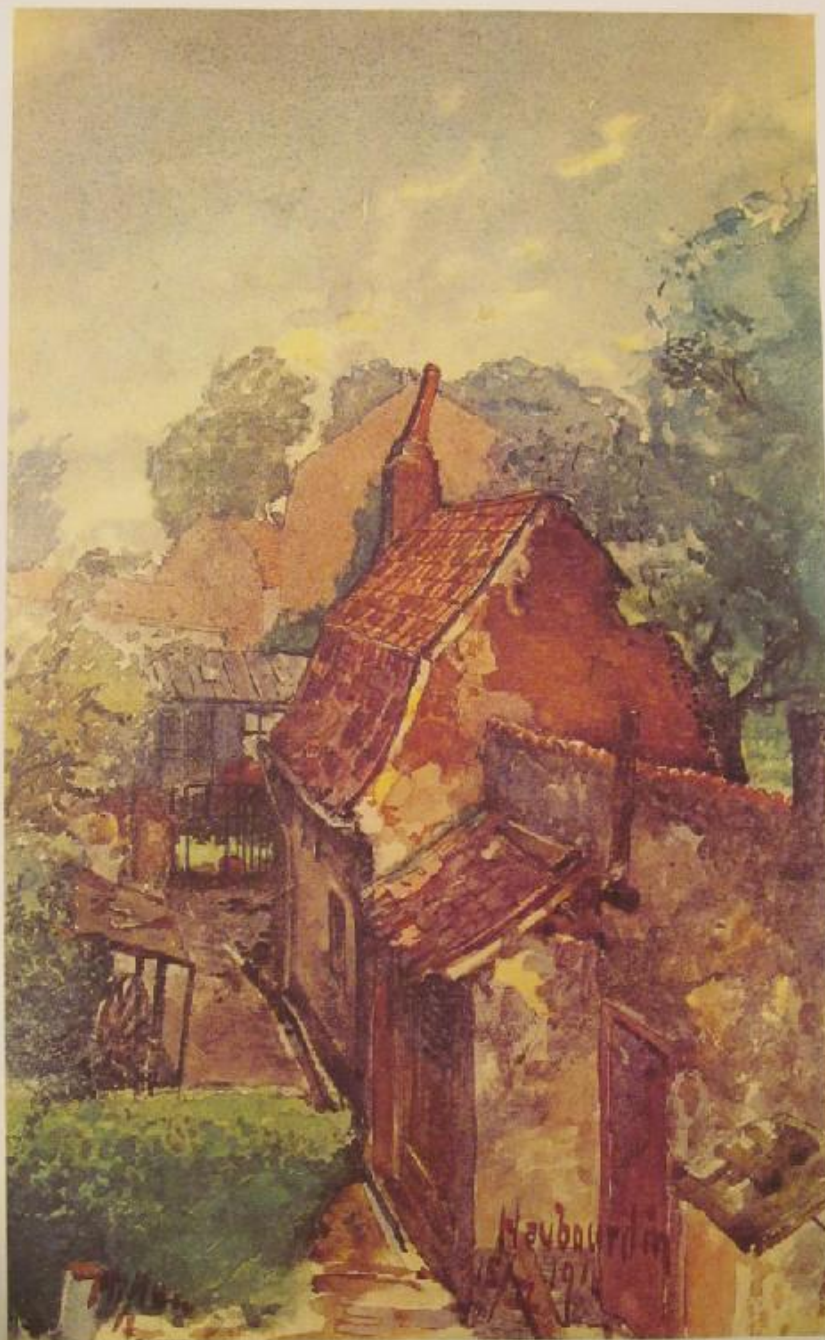
Here are three more examples:



Di. 2-1



Seminar-Kirche in Haidou, Aquarell, 1956, (455)



Once you can compare and contrast, you will never be fooled again. Remember, provenance is everything and when it comes to Hitler artwork, if it isn't in Martin Borman or Heinrich Hoffman's books, it is immediately suspect.

One should also be extremely cautious of "authenticating" documents from an August Preisack or a Peter Jahn. These two purported experts would authenticate a Crayola sketch by a chimpanzee as "an original Hitler piece" for money. Some of their "authentic" pieces were done only weeks before by Kujau

Newsletter Oct 26, 2015 No. 180

Some more pictures of recent manufacture material available for sale. Remember, when buying rare items, always ask for provenance and "vet Bring Back" is only good with the military form which authenticates it.

AD













Newsletter **October 1, 2015 No. 179**

You have asked over and over so I have finally prevailed upon my webmaster to re-post the archive materials that used to live where the bookstore now lives. You can still get the

reference books, but we are adding the archives back so you can study these things should you so desire.

Newsletter September 3, 2015 No. 178

Copy vs Original



Here we have a picture of the so-called “Göring Panzer Sword.” This replica is made in China and it, and a fake dagger entitled, “Göring Panzer Dagger” is made in the same country. These sell in auctions and on websites stuffed with other fakes, for large sums of money.

These copies are based on an original piece manufactured by the German sword and dagger maker, Stöcker Stahl- und Metallwarenfabrik GmbH & Co. KG ,(SMF) and paid for (RM 250-) by the staff of the Hermann Göring Panzer Division by Oberst Ewerth via Oberzahlmeister Hoffmann (below)





This sword, from a private collection, was designated as a presentation by the Panzer divisional staff to Chef der Division, Reichsmarschall Göring. Delivery was made to the Divisional headquarters in Italy on 18. Juli, 1943.

In shape it closely resembles the so-called Wedding Sword made up in 1935 by Eichhorn for Goering when he married Emmy Sonnenmann.

Also note that the eagle on the crossguard is not found on any issue Luftwaffe sword but is found on the Wedding Sword.

The Sword is 34 ½ inches overall and the grip is aged ivory.

Newsletter August 18, 2015 No. 177



History Hunter helmet.#6508

>This is an ORIGINAL winter camouflage helmet, which has been inspected physically for authenticity by Kelly Hicks. This is important, as what could amount to a quick splash of paint on a regular army helmet, can yield a handsome profit for the unethical collector or dealer. I picked up this helmet personally, out of a Laguna Beach family's residence, and it has not been in a collection. It's an M42, with no decal, placing this squarely on the Eastern Front during the long painful retreat of the Wehrmacht from Russia. Rear of the lid is EF62 marked, with a batch number below it that appears to read 19980. Liner has been preserved at some point with a lanolin or other leather preservative, which has kept the liner nicely intact with almost no rot. There is no chinstrap, and the tie that holds the liner tongues together appears to be a piece of shoelace, and not an original (we have an original tie if one is desired, which we will be happy to provide to the buyer of this helmet at no extra charge).<

Mr. Royster's Comments:

I have been collecting helmets for years. I only saw one or two genuine camouflaged helmet in this time, helmets with permanent color paint over the original finish. One was an M-35 from the DAK and the other a para helmet from Sicily. One or two others had the water-based glycol colorings but these were flaking. Now, all the fraudsters are selling hundreds of repainted helmets, putting out books "proving" this or that abortion in "absolutely genuine." They aren't. The problem is that many trusting collectors bought these repainted and misrepresented pieces as genuine, for high prices, and when they discover they have been swindled, there is nothing they can do to recover their money and the humped helmets become impossible to sell.

Newsletter August 9, 2015 No. 176

To: ;

From: germanww2@gmail.com

Subject: 2 - offer ww2 - 2.08

Date: Sun, 2 Aug 2015 16:28:59 +0200

Hello, I am sending pictures of item that I have to sell.

Sword SS (signed RZM - 1053/38)

Sword SA (signed RZM - 1938 Eickhorn Solingen)

German stick (length 900mm, made of brass)

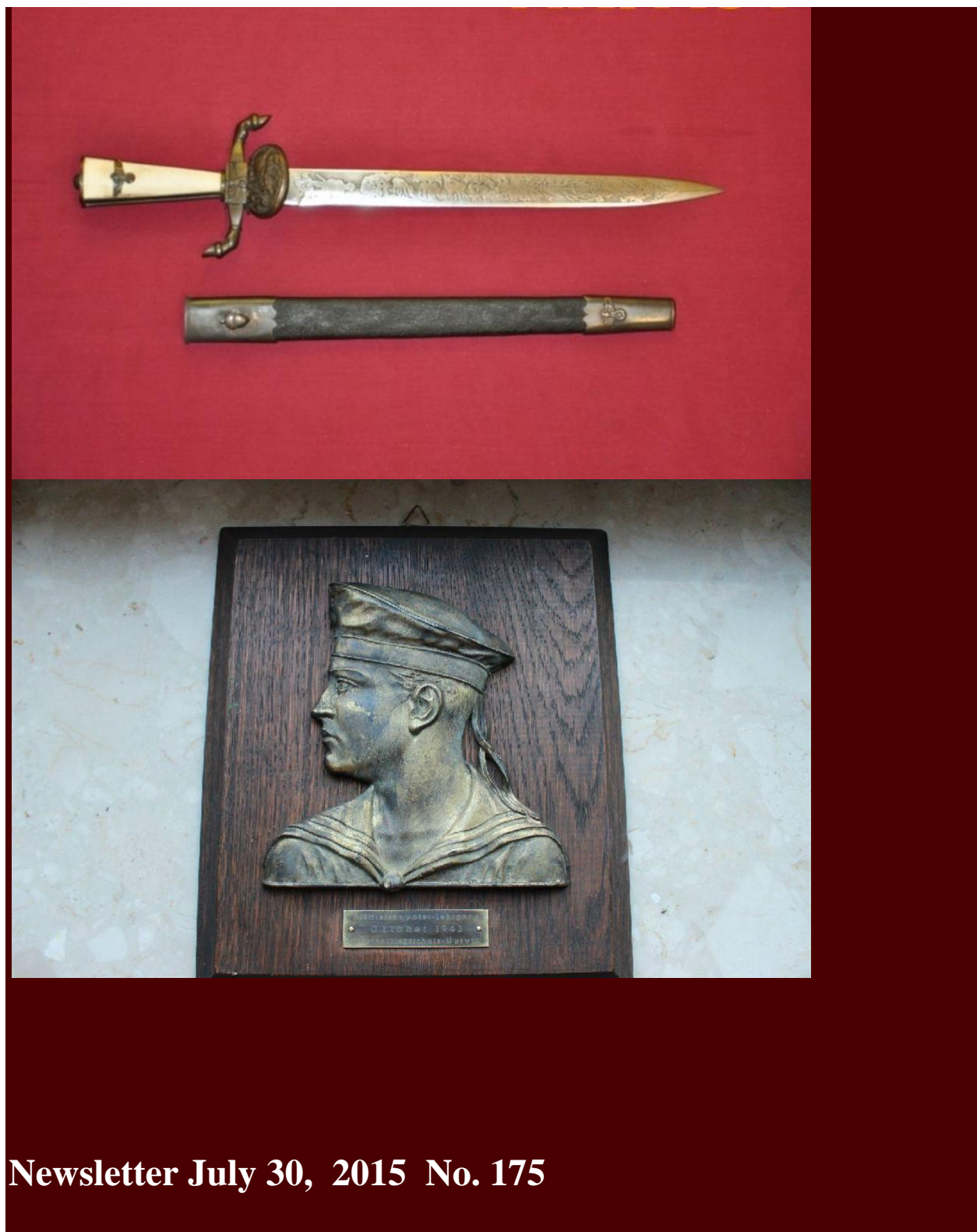
Kriegsmarine plaque (made - brass, size- 190mm x 220mm)

**German swords Hunting (leather scabbard, signed,
beautiful decorated blade and handle, sword length - 500mm).**

If something you are interested or have any questions, write

Best Regards





Newsletter July 30, 2015 No. 175



See Mr. Royster's Comments below the write up

HISTORY HUNTER AUCTIONS

“This rare dagger hails from the "Gold for Iron" period during WWI, when strategic materials such as gold (and brass) were reserved for essential production. Accordingly, we see many non-essential items (like dagger scabbards) produced of steel rather than the more traditional brass. This dagger is similar to other known specimens, particularly the one pictured in the Johnson / Wittmann *Collecting the Edged Weapons of Imperial Germany*. These daggers have the standard imperial crossguard, celluloid grip, and "open crown" pommel based on the Imperial German style. This dagger has the rarer Bavarian royal crown pommel, which indicates that whoever wore this dagger would have been a Bavarian Naval pilot or observer. The lightning bolt scabbard is made of steel and has a black anodized finish to the exterior. Affixed to the center obverse of the crossguard via a metal pin is a gilt propeller device, indicating the dagger wearer was a member of the Bavarian air forces. The blade is a standard, unmarked, double etched example, identical to those used for other daggers from the period. Scabbard bands are quite unique, having an oak leaf and acorn design on both sides. This is a very rare dagger, few of which are known to exist (around 5) and is missing from virtually every representative dagger collection. According to the consignor, this dagger was brought back by a WWII veteran along with an SS dagger, which was retained in the collection of the consignor.”

Mr. Royster's Comments

Unfortunately for a prospective buyer, this is very obviously not what it purports to be. In the

first place, there was no Bavarian navy. In the second, the crown finial is missing its orb and cross, if there ever was one. The only dagger worn in the Imperial German military was the naval dagger but this piece bears no resemblance to the originals. The Weyersberg sword and dagger catalogs of this period show many original Bavarian military weapons but no such “Bavarian Naval Dagger.”

Books and booklets produced in recent years are virtually worthless as reference works and almost all of them contain many fakes and fantasy pieces that assist dealers to shove their own fakes and fantasy pieces on unsuspecting customers.

The reference to a veteran in this description has been used repeatedly as a means to “authenticate” strange, fantasy, pieces but alleged “veteran” ownership should never be considered as a provenance and has become a joke in the serious collecting world.

Newsletter July 23, 2015 No. 174

From time to time, we receive emails from a manufacture of WW2 memorabilia. We thought you might want to see the latest, see some of the items they offer and, if you like, get on his mailing list and buy directly from the manufacturer rather than from those who are dealing in these items.

If you would be interested in finding out more about what he makes and how much it costs, please email germanww2@gmail.com. Certainly, he would be interested in adding you to his mailing list

Here is his most recent sending:

Hi, I have to sell items:

spoons SS - Heimwehr Danzig in case,

spoons SS + SS forks in one case,

the bust of a horse Lutzow - 37.SS- Frw.Kav.Div (made of brass - casting - 190mm)

watch SS - Heimwehr Danzig 1939

watch - PANZERGRUPPE AFRIKA,

stopwatch Waffen SS 1941,

HERMANN GORING gold-plated watch in case (the company Alpina, watch two-sided)

SS Inkwell (dimensions: 210mm x 145mm, inkwell is glass and steel),

BIG JUG - ADOLF HITLER (height 300mm)

Please reply if you are interested in something ??

If you have questions, write.

Best Regards

germanww2@gmail.com

And here are some pictures of his most recent offerings









Newsletter, July 13, 2015 No. 173

Here we have an original Hitler watercolor plus unquestioned provenance of its originality. This watercolor was done by Hitler during the First World War and shows a German Army first aid station in France. Also we show a 1935 Hoffmann catalog, showing the identical painting.



This watercolor depicts the German Medical Aid Station at Fromelles, France, and is from 1915.



It is 13.5 x 22.2 cm and came from the collection of Dr. Charles B. Burdick, an academic, Dean at San Jose, (CA) State University. Dr. Burdick was a published historian on German military matters.

The framed painting can be found in the Price book, "Hitler als Maler und Zeichner," Amber Verlag, 1983, p 192 No. 446

It is also to be found in the Heinrich Hoffman Mappe of 1935, a copy of which, including the original painting is shown.

VERLAG NATIONALSOZIALISTISCHER BILDER

München 13, Friedrichstraße 34, Tel. 34231 Berlin SW 68, Kochstraße 10, Tel. 19 5505
Düsseldorf, Graf-Adolf-Straße 112, Tel. 14617 Wien 1, Opernring 19, Telefon B 20 598
Reichenberg/Sudetengau, Hablau 15, Telefon 2422

Das repräsentative Bild des Führers nach dem Original-Gemälde von Prof. H. Knirr, München



Farbiger Handpressen-Kupferdruck.

Nr. 6037c Bildgröße: 48×107 cm, Kartongröße: 108×140 cm R.M. 150.—

Nr. 9449	Gaselbe komplett gerahmt, Altsilber oder Altgold	R.M. 250.—
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Eintragungen sind als Vorname-Nachname – Packung und aus Schreibweise (nicht Telefonnummern) – Rufnummern anzugeben. Die aus dem Vorname, Nachnamen, Geburtsdatum, Wohnort und der Bezeichnung eines Eigentums (Wohnung und Grundstück) zu ableitende Tabelle hat die Abkürzungen – Berlin – Düsseldorf – Gießen – Regensburg.

Aquarelle von Adolf Hitler

In geschmackvoller Mappe sechs farbige Kunstblätter
und eine Schwarz-Weiß-Zeichnung

Farbenbilddrucke nach Original-Materialien des ehemaligen Gefreiten und Meldgängers Adolf Hitler

(Kartongröße 25x31 cm)

Einzelblätter à RM 2.50



Nr. 126

Panzer-Kücherei, Dillstraße 25/26 am Königsplatz in Berlin.
nach einer Aquarelle von Adolf Hitler.
Bild RM 10.— Komplett mit Rahmen und Glas RM 22.—



Panzer-Kücherei 1915.



Nr. 128

Kloster-Büchse
in Kassel 1914



Nr. 129

Panzer-Kücherei, Dillstraße 25/26
am Königsplatz in Berlin.



Nr. 130

Panzer-Kücherei, Dillstraße 25/26
am Königsplatz in Berlin.



Nr. 131

Panzer-Kücherei, Dillstraße 25/26
am Königsplatz in Berlin.



Nr. 132

Panzer-Kücherei, Dillstraße 25/26
am Königsplatz in Berlin.



Nr. 133

Panzer-Kücherei, Dillstraße 25/26
am Königsplatz in Berlin.



Nr. 134

Panzer-Kücherei, Dillstraße 25/26
am Königsplatz in Berlin.

The Golden Eagle Forum News Letter No 1

The go-to journal for German militaria collectors!

Forum Chief...Basil Colon

Orders & Decorations WW II Moderator ...Saul Scrotum

Orders & Decorations post-WWII Moderator ...Tansy-Sue Karpowitz

Orders & Decorations Godet Black Wound Badges Moderator ...Edgar T. Smegma

Orders & Decorations Juncker Black Wound Badges Moderator ...George Navel

Orders & Decorations Fantasy Pieces Moderator ...Horst Schwantzfresser

Schloss Klessheim Treasures Moderator ...Timmy Slatkin

Uniforms, Wehrmacht Moderator ...Cestus Gorp

Uniforms NSDAP Moderator...Mike Hunt

Uniforms HJ Moderator...Gwen Twidget

Uniforms Foreign Volunteers Moderator...Istvan Schmuck

Uniforms German Mail Service Moderator...Rutherford Minge

Uniforms German Tram and Rail Service Moderator ...Yolanda Puta

Uniforms German Hospital Attendant Moderator ...Roberto Momser

Daggers & Edged Weapons of the Third Reich Moderator...Edgar Slittman

Fantasy Daggers & Edged Weapons of the Current Era Moderator...C.E. Toejamm

Steel Helmets of the Wehrmacht Moderator ...Colonel Bill Seamy

Camouflaged Helmets of the Current Era Moderator...Major Hector Nuisance

Field Marshal's Batons Moderator ...Rolf Hosenbrummer

Military Uniform Buttons of the Wehrmacht and SS Moderator...Sawney Bean

Uniform Buttons of the German Postal Service Moderator...George Yang

Wehrmacht and Waffen-SS Cigarette packs Moderator...Russ Hackman

Forum Secretary ...Edna Semen

Topics of the Day

This from Iron Mike

I just want all my good friends on the Forum to know that survived the operation and will be back in the saddle again! Thanxs to all for the flowers and the goat pictures...that really touched me. Well, can't wait to see the new Hosenbrummer book on the Knight's Cross pieces! Rolf really hit the nail on the head when he explained that my half-moon loop was only for the earliest RK issues! I knew that a copper-center piece was only for Generals but the half-moon is a winner for me. Too bad Chinese printing costs have boosted Rolf's prices up to \$300 a book but believe me, this will be a real winner for all!

This from Tiny Tim

Who says that there was no '200' tank badge? I got my precious piece from Dick Puller's auction and believe me, I am happy. Yes, I know that these were supposed to be made from zinc but as Rolf pointed out, so well, the brass ones were only made for senior SS officers! We do not need negative remarks on our forum, guys, so let's watch the negativity. And believe me, my '200' is the pride and joy of my collection!

This from Captain Scheisskopf

Too bad about Ronnie's wife but look at it this way: He had the chance to save his collection or the baby when the fire broke out and a baby can be replaced without any trouble but a collection is much harder! I mean, where else could you find six belt-buckle guns? And senior SS issue at that!

This from the Dagger King

Just a line to let you all know that I bought a really rare SS Honor Ring from Andy Cohen! It's in pure gold and belonged to Heinrich Himmler as you would know if you read Andy's book. It has Himmler's name engraved inside. 50k is cheap at the price, dudes!

This from Rolando Balmuncher

Looking forward to the Ernie Show in September. Maudie-Mae and I are going for sure (her probation will be over by then and she can leave the state) and we will bring the kids and my latest treasure, the SS General's sport shirt! See you there and just a word to other collectors: Please use the lavatory, not the cigarette urns! When one caught fire at the last show, the stink cleared out the hall! A sad note here: Maudie-Mae's sister, Eunice, just passed away from the Dutch Elm disease!

This from The Great One

Remember, visit my auction and see all the wonderful things that I alone have! My Russian collectors can't wait for the next auction. Three Adolf Hitler paintings, six Field Marshal's batons, a gold-rimmed Grand Cross, a Damascus Hitler Youth Knife with Diamonds and, the best of all, Hitler's personal typewriter!

This from Moderator Timmy Slatkin

Some evil person, whose name I am strictly forbidden to mention lest they get publicity, has written lies about the Klessheim treasure trove. Well, Forum Chief Colon wants me to speak to the forum about this. We know that a U.S. Army train with sixteen boxcars were used to haul away the precious treasures found up in the ceiling of the castle near Salzburg in May of 1945. Sixteen boxcars! I have been in touch with Harvey Grobman who was a crew-member on that special train and he has given me a statement about the crates of diamond-covered medals he personally saw at the time. Harvey is now in a nursing home and his doctor said he was unable to sign this valuable evidence but Harvey was really there and he knows! For a ninety-eight year old man, Harvey was very alert! He was telling me all about President Eisenhower and he said he hoped Ike got reelected in November! Well, now we have the proof and the really evil person can just eat crow! And Mr. Puller, who tracked down all of these rare pieces and has been letting special collectors acquire them, is going to have an original Oakleaves in Gold with Diamonds on his next auction! This could well be one of the precious pieces that Harvey personally loaded into one of the boxcars!

This from Rolando Balmuncher

I just want to add to my last message to the Forum about the Ernie Show. I am getting a little tired of being run into by Andy Cohen on his moto-wheel or whatever he calls that scooter he whizzes around on. My ankle is still sore from the last time, Andy, so why not go back to your

original gig, put on your Peter Pan costume, hook the harness to the wire strung overhead and float gently across the room waving your wand? A dwarf on a moto-wheel charging around is really not funny, Andy.

This from Captain Tuchess

Last month I posted a comment about the U-Boat badge and since then, I have had all kinds of nasty emails from members of the Forum. One of them, Ken Chunder, said I was full of crap and that he and his people knew the Schwerin badge was not genuine because Teddy Parson from England said the eye of the eagle on all original Schwerin badges was looking down instead of straight ahead. We all know that Teddy is fuller of crap than a Christmas turkey and his precious badge, he claims his grandfather got personally from U-Boat ace Topp has the eye looking down. Well, Teddy, sorry to say your 'Topp badge' is one of the Taiwan fakes! Yes, this piece is well-known as a fake, just as you are well-known as a loud mouth airhead. Keep your mouth shut or you'll give all of us hard-ons!

This from Toe-Jam Tommy

I just read in the NY Times that someone stole a collection of tattooed lampshades and two cases of soap from the Holocaust Museum in Brighton Beach last month! They also got some bottles of human ash (with teeth, etc, inside) from the same place. Cops said the thieves rented a place next door, tunneled down and then cut through the floor. What a caper. Of course the kicker here is that all the pieces are stone fakes. Jimmy Trudeau made the lampshades out of pig skin and the soap came from a dealer in Florida. The bars were marked 'RJF' which is supposed to be 'Pure Jew Fat' in German. Problem is that 'RJF' stands for 'Roberta Jczek Foundation.' This was a group dedicated to helping one-legged reggae dancers perform better and when it folded last year, the soap was sold to some dealer down in Georgia. And the so-called 'human ashes' were nothing but 'Sack-Krete' cement with a few teeth from a dentist's office in Dallas. The Holocaust Museum bought these from Jimmy, as fakes, and have been selling them to other Holocaust Museums (there are three hundred of these by last count) as genuine holy relics. What a joke. All that work for fake crap! Well, we haven't heard the end of this. Mark has been selling all those pictures supposed to be SS men killing Jews in Poland. Problem is, Mark got an SS Panzer reenactor group to pose in his field and the Jews were actually Mexican fruit-pickers working down the block! Mark has made a mint, especially when he came out with his Special Sets showing babies being thrown up into the air and caught on 98k bayonets held by the reenactors! He filled some rubber baby dolls with raspberry jello and the pictures are pretty graphic. They dumped the ripped-up dolls into the local river and some old geezer saw them and called the cops...and had a fatal heart attack later while he was driving a school bus! What a mess, dudes! That river was full of floating tiny tots, some real and some rubber.

This from Moderator Colonel Bill Seamy

Just a note to let our Helmet Collectors know about a new process we use to detect fake paint on helmets. Now there has been some stupid controversy, made up by ill-informed and jealous contributors, that the green and brown paints used at the time of the Second World War by the Germans were water-based and that permanent paints were post-war hobby paints. Well, I have to let you know that our special forensic firm of Pigsaw and Associates right here in Oklahoma City have proven that all wartime German paint was enamel and that the two colors are always enamel and not "glycol-based" as the misinformation says. It is true that period German

publications called this glycol but they were obviously wrong! So pay no attention to the attention-seekers and follow our advice. And I am coming out with a brand new book that shows, very clearly the Anzio, Normandy, Stalingrad and Ardennes official German camouflage patterns! Todd Wheatly has made wonderful full-page color displays and we sell these as separate color sheets for you to display in your case along with your special helmet. And Pisgah has told us that they will personally check your helmet for only \$300 and with this very reasonable fee, you get a Special Authentication Certification signed by the head of Pisgah and myself! Don't be fooled by stupid trouble-makers, friends, and listen to the Real Experts! Richard 'Dick' Puller, the world's greatest expert on German militaria, agrees completely with me on this and asked me to tell you. He is too busy with his wonderful upcoming auction (Grand Imperial and Royal Auctions) to personally write you but like all matters, his heart is with us!

This from Moderator Colonel Bill Seamy

Well, I think by now, most of the Website members are aware of the brutal attack on our very own Edgar Pissgums, the man who has done more for our hobby than anyone else, including Saul Scrotum. Edgar, whose books on the Military Ribbons of the Third Reich are world famous, was sandbagged by someone whose name I am forbidden to mention. Edgar was accused of being none other than the evil Increase N. Tarbox! No one believes this scumbag. He said that Edgar's remarks about the color red in Knights Cross ribbons is pure shit and that SS fieldmarshals did not have a Panzer Pink color instead of red, is something out of a White House press release. We all know that the exact shade of red in these ribbon denotes the year and maker identification. Also, Edgar, who is a Sewer Inspector, First Class for the City of Miami, has a degree in Ribbon Analysis from the Institute for Advanced Prevarications of Inverness, California and what does Tarbox have? Nothing that impressive, believe me. We all want Edgar to stand up to this freak and Maudie-Mae says he has gone to Aruba to help search for the Holloway girl. They think they found a toe on the beach but excitement is really high there. Edgar should drop this and come back before these vicious lies spread.

This is from Xyklon-B man

I want all of this forum to learn some wonderful news! Yes, I am reporting that our own Timmy Rottweiler has made a major breakthrough on the collecting scene. By counting the small dots in the eye-holes of SS skull cap buttons, Timmy has discovered that the prestigious Berlin firm of Godet has made at least two such buttons. Of course there is no name on the reverse but Timmy, and the really sainted Herr Maerz, have discovered that if the right eye hole has 62 pebbles, this button is a Godet piece! A new book is due to come out with this priceless information in it, along with wonderful pictures of Timmy's own Godet piece! And malicious stories that Godet did not make black wound badges are just so much unbelievable crap! Godet also made Tiger tanks, thanks to some wonderful research on the part of Ben Dova and Mr. Maerz! Godet also made field stoves, tent pegs, and hobnails for boots (the SS ones have tiny 'SS' runes on each one for stomping on Jews and leaving their mark behind!)

This from Moderator TruthSeeker

Many members have, unfortunately, been leaving The Golden Eagle Forum. Some are annoyed by the articles viciously attacking the rubber Grand Cross that Reichsmarshal Goering used to wear in his bath. Our own co-owner, Andy Cohen, discovered this rare historical item still in the hands of the veteran who found it in Goering's home. Andy was able to get a really wonderful

story about this in the 'New York Post' along with a wonderfully illustrated picture of the Hitler Suicide Pistol, found in Berlin by the world-renowned Colonel James Atwood. Unfortunately for a long line of thrilled collectors who were impatiently waiting, checkbooks in hand, Andy sold the pistol, gold plated and engraved with ivory grips and 'AH' on them, to the same California billionaire that bought his fabulous Adolf Hitler Desk set that had been advertised in Basil Colon's Antiques Auction. Vicious rumors, circulated that Andy had this made in India are just more of the jealous rumors started by wannabe "experts." The world-famous expert author, Mr. Maerz, has given an affidavit that he saw that very same set on Hitler's desk when he was sweeping out his office just before the signing of the Munich Pact in 1938 and what better authentication can you find, anywhere?

This is from Captain Panzerfaust

Stories from discredited people, that the Feldherrnhalle daggers always had Bakelite grips are just that...stories. My own collection has thirty three Feldherrnhalle daggers and my grips are silver, ivory, ebony, pearwood, mahogany, and my own Viktor Lutze Birthday Dagger has solid gold grips studded with diamonds. We mustn't listen to the liars and jealous sources and remember that Dr. Balmuncher, who has located so many of these precious treasures, all from veterans, has written a wonderful book on 'Presentation Honor Daggers of the Feldherrnhalle' that shows many color pictures of these pieces. And, of course, we all know that two trucks filled with these pieces were removed by GIs from the famous secret rooms of the Schloss Klessheim in 1945. And this is in addition to the twelve boxcars of very rare medals like the Golden Oakleaves with Swords and Diamonds and famous Godet-made belt buckles for the Hitler Youth that filled almost an entire train. We here at Golden Eagle are sad that so many of our members have left but we recognize that those of us who remain are the essence of true collectors. And I want to add a personal note to my many friends! Eunice is recovering very nicely after falling into her cousin's newly-opened septic tank. After two hours immersion, she is still very chipper and although she is getting better, she still is sleeping in the garage but we expect that with another steam-cleaning, Eunice will be back in the house by Thanksgiving! Russ Hackman's enormous collection of German military cigarette packs got quite a boost on Thursday when he bought a box of SS cigarettes from the Basil Colon Auction. I always recommend Basil as a source for the unexpected and wonderful! His sale of Eva Braun's shopping lists last month was a brilliant success. Just imagine, readers, over five hundred pages of real historical treasures!

Newsletter July 5, 2015 No. 172



Here we have the latest production from the eastern European fake mills. This is purported to be a really desirable "SS membership lapel" pin. All of these recent production pieces have maker's names and also the SS membership number of the holder. We have seen a number of these lapel pins over the years, denoting membership in various NSDAP and military organizations, and not one of the originals have membership numbers on them.

It is interesting to note that suddenly a flood of rare insignia, mostly SS, appears on the market, eagerly advertised, described and praised. It is never just one interesting piece but dozens that are found in cases at the SoS or the Max and then found in all of the military auctions that are designed to shove off fakes on the unsuspecting.

And we are now waiting for a well-illustrated report from a foreign collector about the flood of fake "SS Document Boxes" showing both original and recent eastern European fakes.

Newsletter July 2, 2015 No. 171

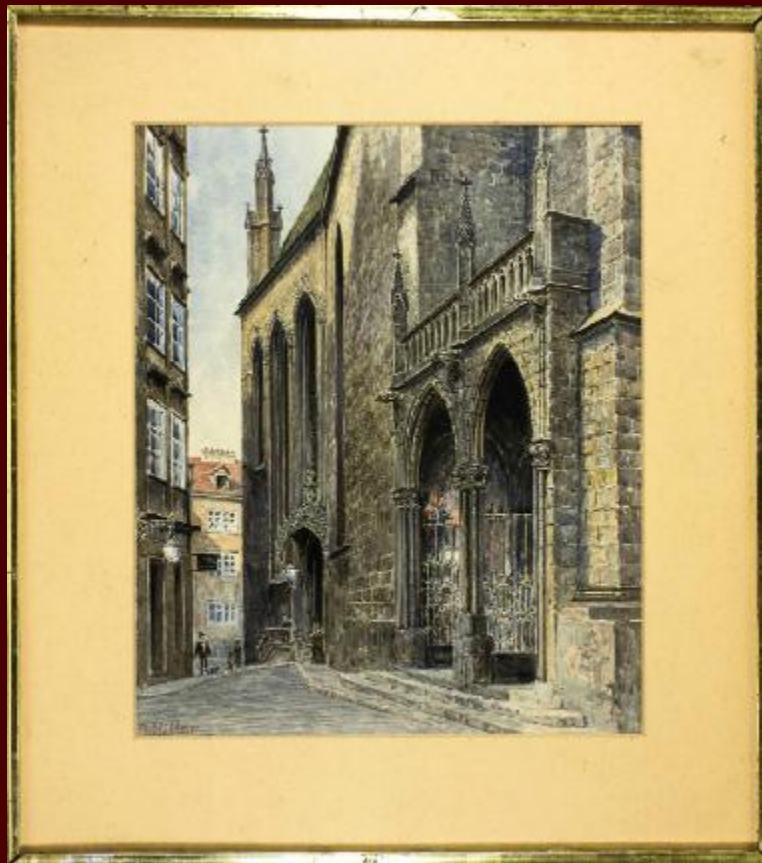
We have been reliably informed that a con-man is operating in Romania, advertising many very expensive items for sale at very low prices. Collectors, and other interested parties, who send money off to his bank, receive nothing in return. Here, for the benefit of the collecting world, we are reprinting the name used by the swindler and his bank information.

Ana Maria Galea
Eilberarii Nr. 3 BLB Hunedoara
Romania
Phone No: 0040747794772

Bank Account number: RO25BRDE220SV 72346302200 of Muresan florin vasile BIC: BRDEROBU (Roumania)

Newsletter June 21, 2015 No. 170

An auction house is offering a "Hitler painting" for a great deal of money. Here is a copy of the picture and the text of the offering, followed by a comment.



WATERCOLOR PAINTING OF A CHURCH BY ADOLF HITLER

An original oversize watercolor painting by future dictator Adolf Hitler, 8 3/4" x 11 1/4" (sight), one of Hitler's Vienna street scenes depicting an exterior view of "Maria am Gestade" (English: "Mary at the Shore"), a Gothic church and one of the oldest churches in the city. Hitler has painted a side view of the church, including the two side entrances, the alley way, adjoining buildings, and human figures which one rarely sees in his work. The painting is executed in a black ink wash with muted shades of orange, ochre, brown, red and ivory, the same colors and in the same style in a very similar work sold by us in 2013. The image is signed in ochre paint: "A. Hitler" at lower-left in block letters, as Hitler's works typically were. The

colors, style, choice of subject and poor depth perspective are entirely consistent with Hitler's work. Indeed, Hitler took great liberties in this work, straightening the alleyway, narrowing the church's exterior walls, and placing buildings closer together. The human figures are virtually identical to those often seen in Hitler's paintings: elongated or amorphous figures poorly represented in every respect. Hitler painted this now de-consecrated church several times, from different perspectives. In very good condition. Set in a period (toned) mat and gold gilt frame with period hanger on reverse, from an Austrian consignor. Having handled many Hitler paintings in the past, we are confident that the style, signature...and the lack of trumped-up paperwork points to this piece as being completely genuine and certainly not one of the dozens of frauds and oils (!) to have reached the market over the past dozen years. Additional photos on request. NOTE: This lot is being re-offered due solely to the failed bid of JOHN ALLIOTT in our previous auction."

Estimate \$15,000-20,000

Mr. Royster's Comment:

As is usual, no actual provenance is given with this watercolor. Prospective purchasers of "Hitler paintings" should be aware of the fact that in 1938, after the Austrian Anschluss, Martin Bormann, at Hitler's request, canvassed throughout Vienna and Austria to locate purported Hitler paintings for inclusion in an illustrated publication on original Hitler pieces.

Hitler himself passed upon the authenticity of these paintings confirming those he painted, denying those he didn't. These authenticated pictures are now located in the German state archives and are available to the public on microfilm. Interested parties should write to the archives and ask for:

BANS - 26/90 ONWARD

Each individual painting in the Bundesarchive will have its own unique number.

If a painting, especially a nicely framed one and not an illustrated postcard which Hitler used to do as a young man, has no provenance other than a vague reference to "an Austrian consignor" it ought to be viewed with great caution.

"From an Austrian consignor" is in the identical category as "From a vet," or "Found in a secret cave in Austria (or Poland or elsewhere)"

If a collector wishes to spend, as in this case, \$20,000, it would improve his chances of later selling if there were a genuine provenance and not a worthless reference to a veteran or an "Austrian consignor."

This is a competent watercolor (and Hitler never painted in oils) but as this offering is without any believable background, it should be viewed with great caution.

No respectable art auction house will accept any work of art for sale to the public unless it has provable provenance and this ought to be the case in any auction, be it for “rare” personality pieces or expensive art works.

Newsletter June 17, 2015 No. 169

Here we have a collection of daggers, carefully aged, coming from a Polish dealer in Third Reich kitch.



He also sells small statutes, cigarette cases, SS flags & pennants, belt buckles, presentation plaques, dinnerware from various SS units and other precious jewels.



Unlike the dealers who buy from him, he does not sell his doctored items as genuine. If you would like to contact him so you can buy directly instead of through the dealer network, you can reach him at GermanWW2@gmail.com. I am sure he would be delighted to add you to his mailing list as well as his list of customers.

Time permitting, we will be doing an article on more fake "presentation" daggers and very fancy, ivory-hilted "Luftwaffe Presentation Honor Swords" now being made in China.

Newsletter June 13, 2015 No. 168

I recently had this email conversation and thought you might find it interesting.

From:
To: adroyster@hotmail.com
Subject: Hicks Winter Helmet
Date: Thu, 11 Jun 2015 18:31:54 -0400

Hello Arthur

I'd appreciate your opinion on this helmet camouflage I am not the owner or buyer just interested regarding authenticity. Apparently its passed all the tests according to Mr Hicks.

Further this SS decal on a Jan Meland helmet, it looks very thin to me but I'm not expert. Below is the thread I find it strange experts change their opinion after finding out who the helmet belongs to.

<http://www.wehrmacht-awards.com/forums/showthread.php?t=806545>

Regards



From: adroyster@hotmail.com
To:
Subject: RE: Hicks Winter Helmet
Date: Thu, 11 Jun 2015 16:27:18 -0700

I have been a collector for a number of years and I have seen about three absolutely original "camouflage" helmets. Always, without exception, the colors applied are water-based and will come off. Colors that are permanent are model hobby paint and indicate a totally fake piece.

AD

From:
To: adrovster@hotmail.com
Subject: RE: Hicks Winter Helmet
Date: Fri, 12 Jun 2015 14:07:11 -0400

Arthur I asked him what type of paint it is and had he tested it with a uv light, I wanted specifics these dealers just give one the run around. Its a very expensive helmet I don't know who bought it. My questions over these snow/winter helmets along with those Norway creations got me booted out of Walhalla and chased from WAF. Maybe I'm the only person who remembers postwar white painted helmets in Europe stuck on fence posts etc, I don't why people did it I was very young. Maybe it was a sign farmers, people in the sticks had relics for sale etc I couldn't even ask the forum owners to test the paint, it should

be water based, nothing only personal attacks,,,, so much rubbish on these US forums, its pathetic.

I used to love german helmets now I hate them, bigwigs and their shills ripping people off with their stupid pricing. I don't like this helmet if I'm the only one, so be it for me it is not WW2.

Kind Regards

>

FW: Hicks Winter Helmet
Arthur Royster [adroyster@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday 6/12/2015 12:51 PM
To: kellyhicks@hotmail.com

Dear Mr. Hicks:

There has been some loud and on-going controversy concerning alleged "camouflaged German helmets."

In recent years, a flood of these have swamped the market, enriching the few and deluding the many.

In January of 1943, the base color of all German Wehrmacht equipment was changed from dark grey to dark yellow. This base coat was permanent.

In addition, various units in the field were supplied with so-called "tarnpasten" or camouflage pastes. These consisted of olive green, red brown and white (for winter use). These paints were glycol based and were mixed with water to apply in season. It should be noted that these colors were removable with water and a brush when the seasons changed.

If the camouflage colors are not removable with water and are permanent, they are nothing more than modern hobby model paints, designed for use on model armored vehicles. Therefore, if one has a helmet with permanent camouflage paint, and paint applied delicately with a hobby airbrush, it is a repainted helmet whose value has been destroyed.

The spraying of paint during the Second World War was done with a compressor and large spray gun and the delicate colors on helmets one now sees on all the best sites are modern repaints, designed to defraud.

Such appellations as "The Anzio" model, the "Stalingrad" pattern or the "Normandy" pattern are totally invented for the purpose of deceit.

One notes with amusement the frenzy of very amateur and very ignorant collectors, and dealers, frantically denying what I have just written.

Note that the Verordnungs orders, published and distributed, of the services contained all of the information I have stated above.

AD

Newsletter May 22, 2015 No. 167

One of the most profitable and least publicized, businesses is the merchandising of fine art. Every year millions of dollars worth of allegedly rare works of art are sold or auctioned at ever increasing prices.

What is not generally known is that the fine art market is as carefully controlled as the diamond market...and as rewarding to those who control it.

Another carefully concealed fact is the amount of deliberate fakery being practiced; forgeries and frauds are responsible for a good portion of the annual receipts in this field.

Basilisk Press is commencing a series of highly detailed, well illustrated, carefully researched and completely factual books designed to assist neophyte as well as expert in the detection of fakes and forgeries.

The Publishers hope that our new series will fill a long needed gap in the bookshelves of the collector, the expert and the art historian.

Our forthcoming series will include such fascinating subjects as:

- The bronzes of Frederic Remington
- Georgian silver
- Pre-Columbian and Incan artifacts
- A history of fraud in dry-point etchings
- Counterfeit Japanese swords and armor

- Frauds in ivory
- Persian rugs and wall hangings
- Ancient Greek and Roman coins and their modern reproductions
- Military and civil orders and decorations
- Fake Adolf Hitler paintings and sketches
- Counterfeit Chinese American and foreign gold and silver coins
- The Anna Frank diaries
- The Shroud of Turin and other religious hoaxes
- Fake Napoleonic edged weapons
- American Civil War reproduction belt buckles and uniform buttons

Newsletter May 11, 2015 No. 166

Very recently, the collecting world was shown a nicely illustrated article by the world-famous Craig Gottlieb, depicting pictures of fakes being offered to the collecting world.

These pictures were from the Polish website germanww2@gmail.com and depict literally hundreds of WW II items this firm manufactures.

For some reason, Mr. Gottlieb only showed what can best be called kitch items, nothing of real interest to people who collect his brand of militaria.

What we are showing here are just exactly these items of interest to the militaria collecting world.

The Polish firm are not selling fakes to the collecting world but saleable items to the dealing world.

We hope you find these of interest.

We are working on more heavily illustrated projects such as the Italian firm that makes beautiful copies of the formal Knights Cross papers and a Barcelona firm in Spain and a firm in Hong Kong that make up many daggers, both common originals like Naval daggers and Hitler Youth knives and such gaudy non-existent fakes as “Feldherrnlalle” daggers and the newly-promoted “Mueller Damascus” SS swords and daggers.

We are adding these illustrated catalogs to our original “SS Allach Porcellain” illustrated catalog of items now being made in China.

































Newsletter May 8, 2015 No 165

Once Hitler became Chancellor, many German cities made him a honorary citizen and he was presented with many elaborate, hand-made certificates. These were kept in a large oak chest

located in the main hall of his house, the Berghof. At the end of the war, the SS personnel guarding the buildings, on Hitler's orders, burnt everything in the house that related to him, including the Ehrenbürger documents. Several photographs in a post-war LIFE magazine show the burnt furniture and the remains of the documents. But after the war, an enterprising German artist, Karl-Heinz Tietjens, located in the Westerwald, put his talents to producing new citizenship documents and since each one was unique, he had no trouble with inventing his own concepts. He sold these to antique dealers, retired Nazis and gullible collectors for DM 100, which in those days, was equal to \$25.00. Tietjens kept a record of his productions, which we are presenting below, along with a sample of his talents. One wonders how many "really advanced" collections sport one of the resurrected treasures. While the list is relatively complete, occasionally a new city emerges to be added to the list. In sum, all the originals were burnt in 1945 so any examples on the market or in collections are not original to the period.



List of counterfeit Ehrenbürger letters for Adolf Hitler

Community	State	Presentation Date
Aachen	Preußen	29. März 1933
Aichach	Bayern	5 April 1933
Albersdorf	Preußen	29 März 1933
Aschersleben	Preußen	4 April 1933
Augsburg	Bayern	25 April 1933
Bad Doberan	Mecklenburg	August 1932

Bad Kissingen	Bayern	17 März 1933
Bad Oeynhausen	Preußen	5 April 1933
Bad Reichenhall	Bayern	5 April 1933
Baden-Baden	Baden	20 April 1933
Balingen	Württemberg	23 März 1933
Berchtesgaden	Bayern	25 März 1933
Bergisch Gladbach	Preußen	1933
Berlin	Preußen	1 April 1933
Biedenkopf	Preußen	23 März 1933
Bochum	Preußen	1933
Bornheim (Rheinhessen)	Volksstaat Hessen	2. Juni 1932
Brandenburg an der Havel	Preußen	1933
Braunschweig	Braunschweig	1933
Brühl (Rheinland)	Preußen	1933
Bühl (Baden)	Baden	1933
Chemnitz	Sachsen	1933
Coburg	Bayern	26 Feb 1932
Danzig	Reichsgau	
Danzig	Westpreußen	1939
Delitzsch	Sachsen	11 April 1933
Dinkelsbühl	Bayern	24 April 1933
Dortmund	Preußen	20 April 1933
Drohne	Preußen	4 August 1933
Düsseldorf	Preußen	1933
Eggenfelden	Bayern	11 Juni 1933
Eisenach	Thüringen	1933
Erlangen	Bayern	1933
Esens	Preußen	1933
Essenheim	Volksstaat Hessen	1932/1933
Ettenkirch	Württemberg	1933
Euskirchen	Preußen	3 April 1933
Feuchtwangen	Bayern	1933
Forst (Lausitz)	Preußen	28 März 1933
Frankfurt am Main	Preußen	1933
Frankfurt (Oder)	Preußen	1933
Fulda	Preußen	1933
Gau-Odernheim	Volksstaat Hessen	25 Mai 1932
Gera	Thüringen	20 April 1933
Gladbeck	Preußen	7 April 1933
Großniedesheim	Bayern	Sept 1932
Görlitz	Preußen	1933
Goslar	Preußen	1933
Halle	Preußen	1933
Hamburg	Hamburg	1933
Hameln	Preußen	13 Apr 1933
Hanau	Preußen	28 März 1933

Hann. Münden	Preußen	30 März 1933
Hannover	Preußen	6 April 1933
Helmbrechts	Bayern	1933
Hemer	Preußen	30 Jan 1936
Hennef (Sieg)	Preußen	10 Apr 1933
Herne	Preußen	1933
Herrenberg	Württemberg	24 März 1933
Hildesheim	Preußen	1933
Hirsau	Württemberg	Apr 1933
Hof	Bayern	29 März 1933
Ihringen	Baden	Juli 1932
Jena	Thüringen	20 April 1933
Kalkar	Preußen	2 Mai 1933
Karlsruhe	Baden	10 Mai 1933
Kaufbeuren	Bayern	27 März 1933
Kelheim	Bayern	1933
Kevelaer	Preußen	1933
Kiel	Preußen	1933
Kirchardt	Baden	1933
Köln	Preußen	30 März 1933
Kolbermoor	Bayern	27 März 1933
Kleve	Preußen	30 Juni 1933
Koblenz	Preußen	29 März 1933
Kulmbach	Bayern	27 April 1933
Landsberg am Lech	Bayern	24 April 1933
Landshut	Bayern	Dezember 1935
Lindau (Bodensee)	Bayern	1933
Lübben (Spreewald)	Preußen	1933
Lübeck	Lübeck	1933
Lüdenscheid	Preußen	18 April 1933
Magdeburg	Preußen	1933
Mainz	Volksstaat Hessen	1933
Marbach am Neckar	Württemberg	5 Mai 1933
Marburg	Preußen	3 April 1933
Maulbronn	Württemberg	1933
Meißen	Sachsen	1933
Memmingen	Bayern	1933
Mindelheim	Bayern	25 März 1933
Mittenwald	Bayern	29 April 1933
München	Bayern	1939
Münster	Preußen	1933
Neunburg vorm Wald	Bayern	1933
Neuruppin	Preußen	1933
Neustadt an der Aisch	Bayern	7 März 1932
Nordhausen	Preußen	20 April 1933
Nortorf	Preußen	3 April 1933

Oelsnitz/Vogt.	Sachsen	1 April 1933
Oldenburg	Oldenburg	1937
Passau	Bayern	1 April 1933
Plauen	Sachsen	1 März 1933
Potsdam	Preußen	1933
Radebeul	Sachsen	1933
Radolfzell am Bodensee	Baden	1933
Recklinghausen	Preußen	19 April 1933
Regensburg	Bayern	1933
Reichenbach	Preußen	1933
Reilingen	Baden	20 März 1933
Roth	Bayern	1934
Saarbrücken	Saargebiet	1934
Sankt Andreasberg	Preußen	4 April 1933
Schrobenhausen	Bayern	1933
Schwabach	Bayern	15 Sept 1933
Schwalmtal	Preußen	1933
Schwandorf	Bayern	1933
Siegen	Siegen	1 April 1933
Simmern/Hunsrück	Preußen	1933
Speyer	Bayern	27 April 1933
Spremberg	Preußen	1 Februar 1934
Stavenhagen	Mecklenburg	April 1933
Stuttgart	Württemberg	1933
Traunstein	Bayern	31 März 1933
Trier	Preußen	1933
Trostberg	Bayern	31 März 1933
Uetersen	Preußen	1934
Ulm	Württemberg	15 Mai 1933
Weiden i.d.Opf.	Bayern	9 Nov 1933
Weilburg	Preußen	1933
Weinsberg	Württemberg	16 März 1933
Wertheim	Baden	1933
Wilhelmshaven	Preußen,	1937
Oldenburg		10 März 1933
Wittstock/Dosse	Preußen	1933
Worms	Volksstaat Hessen	2 Mai 1933
Wuppertal	Preußen	4 April 1933
Zwickau	Sachsen	1933
Amstetten	Niederösterreich	1939
Braunau am Inn	Oberösterreich	1939
Haslach an der Mühl	Oberösterreich	1939
Leibnitz	Steiermark	1939
Kufstein	Tirol	1939
Puchenstuben	Niederösterreich	1939
Rohrmoos-Untertal	Steiermark	1939

Schalchen (Oberösterreich) Oberösterreich 1939
Waidhofen an der Ybb

Newsletter May 5 , 2015 No 164

The notorious 'Maurice Collection' which was put together by a German militaria dealer, is apparently making the rounds of the collecting world but only for the very rich.

The asking price has been a hundred thousand dollars. This collection contains a number of original but unimportant mementos of one of Hitler's early supporters and also a number of very exotic and very fake rare medals. The most expensive one, a medal that has been sold over and over to rich suckers, is the so-called "Prototype Blood Order."

This is a purely fantasy piece, made today in Poland and selling, to the trade, in silver for less than a hundred dollars. The last attempted sale was to a dealer in high-ticket items who immediately returned it to the seller once he discovered that many of the items were recent fakes.

It would be most interesting to discover which dealer owns this assemblage and it would be instructive to receive input so that the collecting world can be put on alert.

All responses would be strictly confidential as a matter of course."

This collection consists of the following items:

No. 1. A portrait photo of Adolf Hitler in his trench coat measuring 17 x 13 inches.

No. 2. Two early volumes of Hitler's book Mein Kampf

No. 3. A signed and dedicated studio photograph portrait of Adolf Wagner to Emil Maurice with five lines of dedication.

No. 4. A small silver, or silver-plated, metal cigarette or cigar box measuring about 4 ¼ inches across its top by 3 ½ and about 1 ½ inches deep. It has an intertwined 'E' and 'M' for Emil Maurice engraved in its left-top corner

No. 5. Another cigar box allegedly a present with engraved dedication to Maurice from Julius Streicher, the Gauleiter of the Bavarian region of Franconia.

No. 6. A book 112 pages long stamped inside “Emil Maurice München 27 Shumann Str. 5 tel. 458 902”. The book measures 7 x 10 inches with a fine-leather back binding with leather corner tabs. It is in mint condition. It’s titled “Adolf Hitler und Sein Stab”

No. 7. A watercolor allegedly by Adolf Hitler. It is signed by Hitler with the typical “A. Hitler” signature he used at that time. It depicts the famed Hofbrauhäus in Munich.

No. 8. A Blood Order “Prototype.” This fake badge was alleged to have been worn with a pin back or needle, Complete with inscription of holder’s name and copy of Hitler’s signature on the reverse.

No. 9. The purported original Golden Party pin of party member Emil Maurice (Number 39).

No. 10. Two miniature medal ribbons with metal devices: one silver and the other bronze. For long service in the NSDAP. The bronze one denotes ten years of service in the party and the one in silver represents 15 years more service. The bronze device is mounted on a brown ribbon while the silver is mounted on blue.

No. 11. This is a very common award given to every German soldier who fought in WWI as a “Frontkämpfer” (Frontline soldier). It was designated as “Das Ehrenkreuz des Weltkriegs 1914/1918” and was instituted in 1934

No. 12. This is the handworker’s identification booklet or pass issued to Maurice on 15 January 1930, for his membership in the Handwerkskammer Oberbayern, a society of professional handicraft workers which he was the chairman of from 1940 to 1942.

No 13. Maurice’s Mitgliedskarte, membership card, for the Deutscher Schützenbund for the year 1934.

No. 14. A Christmas greeting in postcard form that depicts two rabbits side by side looking at a little German cottage nestled in winter snow with a full moon shining through the trees. Under these Geli Raubal has written “Emil – Geli” with the greeting Fröhliche Weihnachten (Merry Christmas). Included on the back of the card is the date 24 December 1927

No. 15. A photo of Geli with Emil Maurice while on a skiing trip possibly near Berchtesgaden or the Obersalzberg.

No 16. Fifteen recent copies of photographs that each measure 5 x 3 ½ inches. These were allegedly reproduced by Emil Maurice out of his family albums and included with the group when it was purported to have been sold by Maurice in 1962.

Here we have a thrilling dealer find in some eastern European secret depot, a collection of Really Rare SS helmet covers, These appeared in all their glory at the SOS. This ought to stand for 'Slop of Slop' given the junk masquerading at "Rare and Original Pieces." Note that these discovering, like the "SS Dinner Jacket" insignia, seen at the same show earlier, are all rare. Why do they not find cached piles of Reichsbahn insignia? Or BDM caps? These pictures ought to demonstrate the old statement, "Buyer Beware!"



Here is a side view. Note the lack of loops for the attachment of camouflage, found on all Army and SS camouflage covers. Also note the "rusting" applied to the side hooks.



A close-up of the artistic rusting. If there was sufficient water present to rust the metal, it would stain the cloth. As this is not the case, the rust is obviously applied. Model railroad stores carry a substance called 'Rustall' which does a lovely job.



Here, the lack of loops is very obvious.



Not only are we treated to "authenticating" rust but the reverse color can be seen around the back rim. We have never seen this on original SS helmet covers. Obviously, these are of post-war manufacture.



The crudeness of manufacture would indicate a Polish manufacture. Asian fakes are far better made.



The applied rust and the loose threads are a sure sign of a sloppy production. Originals are far better made.

Newsletter April 18, 2015 No 162

Spotting a Fake Knights Cross

Most of the fake Knights Crosses that have inundated the collection world since the end of World War II are easily identified, even ones from the most important dealers and covered in “authoritative books” on the subject. The frames of all original crosses were stamped out of silver. When the cast-iron cores were placed between these frames, they were silver-soldered together, the edges carefully rounded and polished. The flat rims were then polished and lacquered to prevent tarnishing and the beaded edges chemically frosted.



The picture above is of an original wartime decoration. Note the smoothness of the finish at the soldered joint. The picture below shows a typical fake piece.



The solder used to put the frames together contains lead and while this can indeed be polished, in time, it always oxidizes so that a thin black line is visible. Also note the crude filing to the flat (not rounded as in the originals) edge. This raw appearance was most typical in earlier fakes but even the later “dealer-corrected” ones still have the thin black solder line. No original decoration actually issued during the war had such markings.

Initially crude in construction, the counterfeit decorations have so improved in quality as to be indistinguishable from the originals. When doubting collectors referred to the “low” center swastika of the early Souval and other manufacturers, the next generation had much higher swastikas. When collectors questioned the rough edges, the following copies had very well-polished and detailed rims. When collectors, aided by dubious reference works, demanded specific markings on the rims, such markings as ‘L/12’, ‘4’ and, on the ring, ‘65’ were all included for the benefit of the collector’s anxiety and the dealer’s pocketbook. When collectors questioned the suspension ring on the top of the Knights Cross as being too crude in construction, the ever-considerate dealers and their manufacturers, obliged by putting better defined rings onto their pieces.

The total number of Knight’s Crosses issued during the course of the war was slightly over 7,200. It has been very reliably estimated that there are now over 20,000 such decorations in

private hands and the number grows yearly. The highest military decoration was the Oakleaves, Swords and Diamonds for the Knight's Cross. Twenty seven of these were issued. There are now at the very least, two hundred and eleven such pieces in private collections and German museums. The first issue consisted of the standard Oakleaves and Swords set with diamonds. Only a few of these were issued. This issue was then followed by a much larger production piece set with fifty two stones.

The presentation copy was in silver with genuine diamonds and the copy worn in the field was always privately purchased and in silver set with spinels, a long-time substitute stone. Glass rhinestones were often used for display copies in militaria stores and museums. Like the display Knight's Crosses, they were never issued but can certainly be considered a period piece, albeit of little intrinsic value.

The Diamonds were made by the firm of Godet in Berlin and several private-purchase pieces were made by other authorized jewelers during the war.

After the war, a significant number of these pieces were manufactured for the trade by the Hanau-based firm of Otto Klein. They used the markings 'OK', the latter letter enclosed by the former. This firm also made up Field Marshal's batons with the identical markings but these will be covered in another section.

Many insecure collectors have invented a series of rules and regulations to make them feel more at ease when buying medals but most of these rules have no foundation in fact.

For example, Knights Crosses did not have non-magnetic centers and the rims on all of these decorations were always hallmarked silver. One of the stories put about by collectors is that all pre-war Knight's Crosses had non-magnetic centers. These myth-makers do not seem to realize that the Knight's Cross was a wartime decoration and that as Germany's highest military decoration, was always made to very high standards.

Also, the myth of the "high swastika" is just that. Many early Knight's Crosses did have the desirable high relief swastika and later manufacture pieces occasionally did not. Fakes now being manufactured have magnetic centers, high relief swastikas and whatever proof mark you can imagine.

And the Austrian storage place for "unissued copies" of these diamond-studded medals is supposed to refer to the famous (and fictional) Schloss Klessheim giant vault that allegedly stored hundreds of rare, diamond-studded badges, discovered by a US combat engineer unit that did not exist during the Second World War.

Among the modern fakes attributed to this vault, which must have been the size of Grand Central Station, are German Crosses in Gold with Diamonds (there were indeed three found there, all of which are now in the US Army museum at West Point) and six Golden Oakleaves with Swords and Diamonds.

The only diamond-studded badge ever found in the small wall safe at Hitler's state guest house at

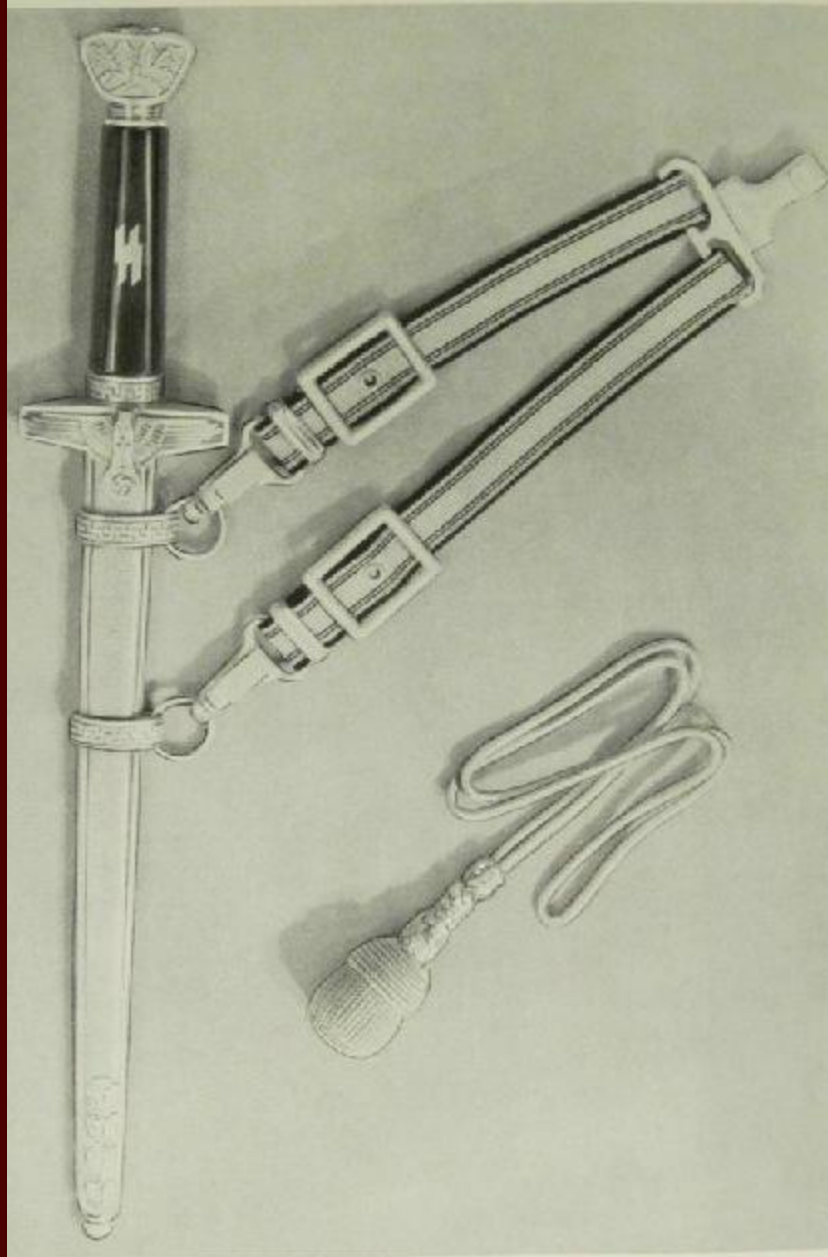
Schloss Klessheim was a Social Welfare medal intended for Admiral Horthy's wife but never presented.

This piece is also in the West Point museum.

Newsletter April 2, 2015 No 161

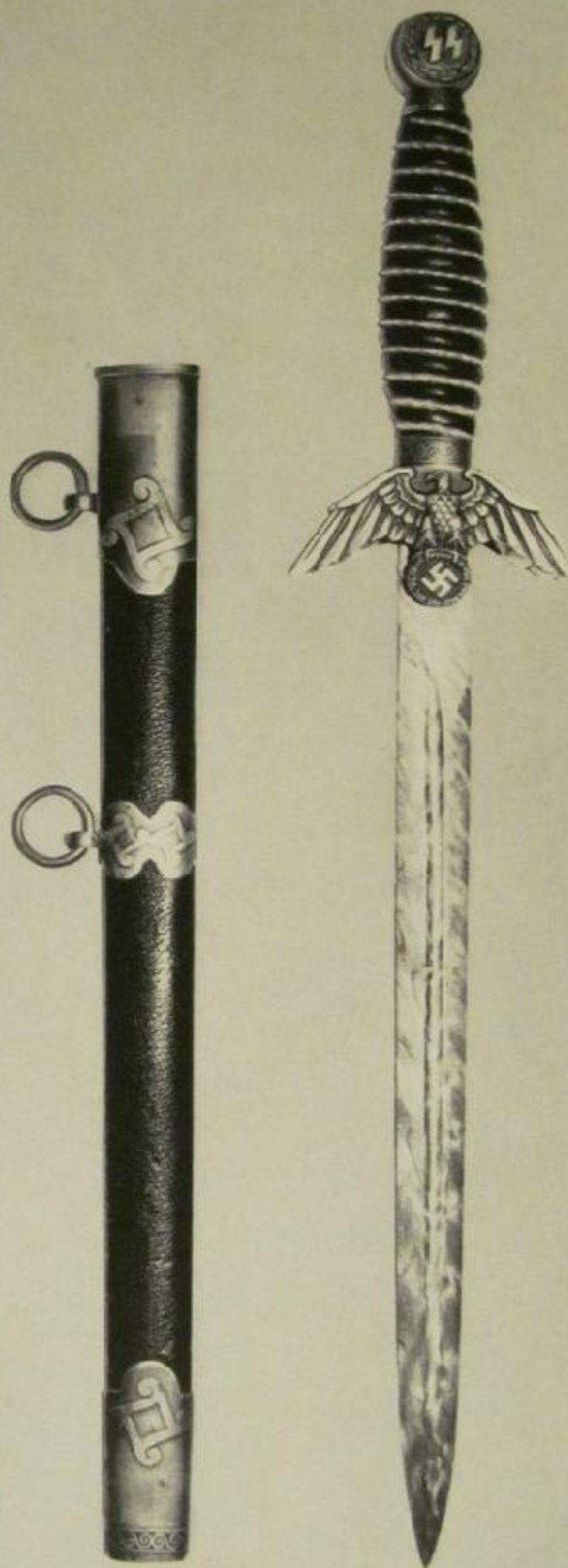
Here we are presenting a selection of the works of the late James Atwood, creator of many rare and valuable additions to the collections of Boobus Americanus.

This:



is a period picture, from the manufacturer, of an original proposed SS dagger. It was made during the period but never accepted. No one has bothered to copy it and add a fake Damascus blade with glued-on gold letters.

And here:



We have a picture of an Atwood fantasy piece. This purports to be an SS prototype dagger, with fake Damascus blade. Atwood paid a firm in Solingen, Germany, fifty dollars for this atrocity. One was recently sold at auction for \$5,000 to a lucky advanced collector.

And here



is the "Himmler Presentation Damascus Letter Opener", allegedly made by a man named Müller at Dachau. This is not Damascus and the letters are put on with epoxy. The "Müller" lettering can be found on a number of Atwood productions and never existed during the course of the Third Reich. Atwood paid a firm in Solingen, Germany, twenty dollars for this rare and desirable piece. Atwood had a hundred examples made and today they grace many prominent collections of the boobus americanus.

Newsletter March 27, 2015 No 160

And now let us move from fake camouflage German helmets into the more esoteric world of rare historical subjects.

Poor Adolf Hitler has been the target of so many enterprising and creative dealers. A veritable flood of paintings, desk sets, engraved hand guns, uniforms, caps and even pen and pencil sets has engulfed the more reputable and elegant auctions.

Eager collectors, mouths agape, stare with covetous envy at the multitude of glittering historical items and struggle to find the cash to own an investment in history for the discriminating collector.

Here we present some examples of history for the envy of some and entertainment of others:

http://www.hermann-historica.de/auktion/hhm64.pl?f=NR_LOT&c=6129&t=temartic_R_GB&db=kat64_3R.txt

Lot Nr. 6129

Adolf Hitler - watercolour drafts, sketches, painting supplies.

Five water colour drafts from the time of his First World War service on the Western Front, similar to the work which was published by Heinrich Hoffmann in the watercolour portfolio "Adolf Hitler - Aquarelle" in 1935, including views of church ruins, villages, city architecture etc., and also a small steel engraving after Hitler's 1915 water colour "Fromelles, Verbandstelle". Also, a sketch pad "Georess 6211", the last page with a pencil drawing of a church steeple, a watercolour board with a drawing of a man with a dog, the reverse with an SA tympanist, a water colour pad "212/15" and an empty sketch book. Further, two invoices from the firm Fr. Ant. Prantl in Munich, Odeonsplatz 15-16, Hitler's preferred shop for his painting supplies, one of which is dated 30 December 1922 to Herrn Adolf Hitler, Munich, Thierschstrasse. In a casket with a typewritten description "Aquarellblock - Aquarellfarben - Malutensilien". A very interesting collection related to Hitler's watercolours.

http://www.hermann-historica.de/auktion/hhm64.pl?f=NR_LOT&c=6129&t=temartic_R_GB&db=kat64_3R.txt

Lot Nr. 6130

Adolf Hitler - assorted painting utensils.

Three boxes of watercolour paint including (tr) "General Staff Colours" by Bormann and a box by Wagner, an Ato-tinter for art, by Koh-I-Noor copy pencils, red chalk and white chalk, charcoal by Gimborn, a large bottle of Pelikan iron gall ink "4001", a small bottle of black ink (empty) and assorted utensils including a large pair of paper scissors by Witte in Solingen. Also an invoice from the firm Fr. Ant. Prantl, royal Bavarian court purveyor in Munich, Odeonsplatz 16 and Hofgarten Arkaden 10 - Hitler's preferred shop for his art supplies - dated 18 January 1914 and issued to Herrn Adolf Hitler, Munich, the first two positions of which carry a hardly readable pencilled inscription "An Herrn Popp weitergereicht - ebenso eine Flasche Leim" (forwarded to Herr Popp - also a bottle of glue). The other lined positions of the invoice show a pencil sharpener, three Koh-I-Noor pencils, the box of paints (tr) "General Staff Colours" and a bottle of ink "Pelikan 4001". All are in a box with a typewritten description "Aquarellblock - Aquarellfarben - Malutensilien".

A very interesting collection relating to Hitler's watercolours and drawings.

Rechnung Nr. 75

12 München d. 18. 1. 14.

Rechnung für J. G. Herrn Adolph Keller
München

Fr. Ant. Brandl

Hof. Rayer Hoflieferant

1 Glas mit Deckel	2 —
2 Tz. Leder	— 80
1 Leistiftspitzer	— 80
Reisnägeln	— 60
1 Dg. Kugelspitz Feder	— 30
50 Büchsen	4 —
1 Dg. Holz- — — — — —	3 30
Reisnägeln	— 85
1 Trachten, Generalstabspfeifen	2 80
1 Schreibmappe	4 —
2 Tz. Tinte, Röhren — — —	1 35
1 Papierständer	13 50
1 Tintenpfen	3 80
Wozu Betrag von M. 37.50.	
Siebenundzwanzig Mark noch fünfzig	
Pfennige kann erhalten zu haben	
bestätigt	
M. Schöngut	
(München)	



Fr. Ant. Prantl

Leitungspapierwaren

Federwaren

Kalenderverlag

Postfach-Conto: 4358
Gree-Conto: Bayer. Breitenbach
München

Rechnung

Fol. 7.46

Herrn Adolf Hitler
München, Thierschstrasse

Auftrag vom: Verkauft durch: Nr.

4 Hochkalender	1/2	40 ~
6 Ballenderlisch	5.36 ~	240 ~
1 Wandkalender		110 ~
4 Hochkalender	4.95 ~	200 ~
M. 2.12/15		
	1/2	5.115 ~

Dankend erhalten
München 30.11.42

Fr. Ant. Prantl



Bedingung: Demont. liefert zum Erhalt der
Ziele zum jeden Abzug.

FR. ANT. PRANTL

München, Odeonsplatz 15-16

Anzahl Datum: Rm. Plg.

1 Glas Tinte	2.10
Gummi	1.00
	3.10
Pelikanol	1.50
	4.60

Umtausch innerhalb 4 Tagen bei Vorlegung
deser Zettels

Verk.

A

Nº 0281 *



Handwritten text in German, possibly a letter or note, mentioning 'München' and '1942'.





Newsletter March 25, 2015 No 159



A. Hitler

Like sarcoptic mange, a great flood of purported “Adolf Hitler” artwork has been appearing on the Internet, intermixed with “prototype SS daggers,” and many badly faked personality items like “Hitler’s uniform” and “Rare Anzio Camouflaged German Helmets.” A case in point is the water color painting above currently up for auction and posted throughout the world's press as the latest breathless find.

In 1938 Reichsleiter Martin Bormann, at the request of Hitler, went about in Vienna after the

Anschluss, searching for original watercolor paintings made, and sold, by Hitler during his stay in that city. Many pictures were located and photographed, in color. These photographs, not the original paintings, were shown to Hitler who indicated, in writing, which were his originals.

These pictures, approved, were put in an album and this is now in the Bundesarchiv in Koblenz. They can be found under: BA N@/25

The Billy Price book, Hitler as Painter and Drawer, (Hitler als Maler und Zeichner) has published copies of these originals. Unfortunately, the Price book is also stuffed with many, many fake pictures. For example, Hitler never painted in oil. Hitler never painted portraits or Alpine landscapes, or studies of flowers.

Some time ago, Wolfgang Schultze/Merchinzki, went about the antique shops in Austria, buying up all the period landscapes and other paintings he could find. These had later Hitler signatures put on them and they were either sold to Billy Price or other unsuspecting victims.

I have been in touch with a Peter Stahl, a confidant of Schultze, who has filled me in about the fake Hitler pieces and many other "rare and unique" items of the Third Reich period. Stahl was heavily involved in preparing the so-called "Hitler Diaries" that appeared on the market and fooled many alleged experts until revealed as bad copies. He is a fund of very accurate, and often amusing, material on all of this,

He states that the study of red flowers now up for auction was done by him for Schultze and he exchanged four of these pictures for a German military hat. He also states that he has a few more copies of the above picture and if anyone is interested, he would be delighted to sell them for about \$20 each, a far cry from and certainly a more fair value than the expected fetching price of the one currently at auction.

Newsletter March 1, 2015 No. 158

Date: Sun, 1 Mar 2015 08:43:37 -0800

From: Xxxxxx@Yyyyy.net

Subject: Third Reich Medals

To: AD@ADRoysterMilitaria.com

Dear Mr. Royster:

I am planning to assemble a basic set of Third Reich Military Medals and Badges (not those exclusive or one of a kind pieces or highest grade ones). At the same time I visit yours and the late Bill Stump's site and learn about so many faked Third Reich items and dealers/auction houses who deal and promote them.

I just wonder if that is the case whether can one be able to buy those real ones if we are not supposed to buy them from Ebay, dealers and auction houses?

Do you have any place(s) where you believe are reliable source(s_ where novice like me can be able to find some reasonable pieces to create a very basic collection in this area?

If this message seems to offend you I offer my deep apology. I am just looking for some guidance if I am not going to rely on messages from those people in WAF, etc, etc,

Best Regards,
Mike C.

Re: Third Reich Medals
Arthur Royster [ad@ADRoysterMilitaria.com]
Sent: Sunday 3/1/2015
To: Xxxxxx@Yyyy.net

Dear Mr. C.:

Common German military Second World War decorations are certainly available but these, even the common ones, are being extensively faked, both in the United States and, especially, in Poland.

If you find such pieces, illustrated, on the Internet selling sites, I would have no problem looking at the pictures and telling you, at once, if they are fake.

I know of no auction house, either in the United States or Europe, that I would recommend to a collector as being totally free from fakes.

And you do not offend me in the slightest.

ADR

Newsletter February 26, 2015 No. 157

It is interesting to note that all kinds of very high quality fake firearms now being sold as original to the Civil War period.

Enfield rifles are being made in India for example, and I am told the most recent pieces are so much like the originals that with a bit of ageing, they could easily pass as valuable originals.

Thinking about this, I am going to expand the Rosyter site to include such pieces as well as

Confederate and Union weaponry such as swords, guns and pistols.

I also have a full catalog of the products of the man in Mechanicsville, Virginia, who makes hundreds of Confederate belt buckles and buttons, as well, and when I get into this field, I have a number of collectors who are eager to contribute.

I also plan to cover: Revolutionary War pieces, American WWI items such as trench knives and bayonets (which are also being made) as well as Napoleonic wars and First World War periods.

They are, for example, making the leather Imperial German spiked helmets and a very well-known German militaria auction house has purchased all the dies for Imperial helmet plates and are busy making and selling these as originals.

Not for long, I am confident.

There is just too much of this going on and I think expanding my site to include these areas would well serve the collecting world.

Of course, this program might frighten off the novice or unknowledgeable collector from buying but it would greatly improve the value of the collections of those fortunate enough to know what they are buying.

Input would always be welcome

Newsletter February 10, 2015 No. 156

To briefly digress from our usual discussions about fake militaria, we address a bizarre character who has cropped up on the Internet, screaming that I am ten different people and spewing out some the funniest rants I have ever seen.



The ranter is one Thomas Wictor and his lunatic fulminations can be seen at:<http://www.thomaswictor.com>

From other postings about him, Mr. Wictor engages in endless howlings about his ruined life, the unspeakable glories of the state of Israel and he attempts to desecrate the lives of anyone and everyone who has ever caused him problems of any kind. real or imagined. Here, for example, is an example of such noise-making:

"The last con artists with whom I was involved were Mike Albee and Laura Dodd, fake book publicists. They bankrupted me. If my parrents hadn't died when they did, I'd be working as a greeter at Wal Mart now."

For reasons totally unknown to anyone except for his doctor, Wictor claims I have written to him (which I have not) and that I lie about how to discern fake camouflage helmets and diamond-studded gold wound badges (which I do not).

Wictor apparently writes, and posts, pages of rather pathetic and strange screamings about anyone and everyone he suspects might not like Jews and this includes those who collect German militaria and those who might possibly drink and enjoy German beer.

He apparently also thinks very highly of the destruction the IDF wreaks on a daily basis on the undefended civilian populations of Gaza, an attitude not shared by many and certainly not by the civilized members of society.

He also claims that I plan to assassinate him at some point in time, perhaps by putting roach powder on his morning bagle.

The Internet is a wonderful source of information for those who seek it but it is also a highway and dumping ground for legions of the manic and dim of wit, strange bloggers and outright ticket-of-leave refugees from mental clinics and various state institutions.

January 22, 2015 No. 155

We received the following email in response to our most recent posting.

Date: Mon, 19 Dec 2014 00:01:20 -0800
From: clihou@yahoo.com
Subject: Robert Hritz
To: adroyster@hotmail.com

Dear Mr. Royster:

I just finished reading your posting of the Wilbur Stump article on fake fantasy German medals. In this article was a reference to a Robert Hritz along with a picture of Mr. Hritz.



I should give you some additional information on this person that might be of interest to your readers.

In May of 2011, Mr. Hritz contacted me and offered me for sale, 305 (Three hundred and five) allegedly silver Mexican coins of different dates. He wanted \$1100 for these coins, claiming to have purchased them from a military collector at a local militaria show.

I paid Mr. Hritz and he sent me a box with the coins.

They were very crude counterfeits, made of steel or iron (so they “rang” when struck) and silver plated. They reacted positively to a magnet and did not weigh what they should have.

I tried many times, after my discovery, to call Mr. Hritz but the number he had given me was for a store in Tombstone and they had never heard of him. The address he put on the package, which I still have, was :”Bob Hritz, 410 Fremont Dr, Tombstone, AZ”

I checked on this and the address turned out to be the Larian Motel and they had never heard of Mr. Hritz.

I continued looking for Mr. Hritz so I could return his counterfeits and discovered that he actually lived at 114 Escondida Drive, Tombstone, AZ 85638 and his actual private telephone number was 520 457-3688. I called this number and always got an answering machine and I left many messages requesting him to return my calls. He has never done this.

When I read on your site that Mr. Hritz was authenticating fake medals, I was not surprised at all and I am writing to you in the hopes that others will not be victimized as I was.

Christopher Lihou

January 18, 2015 No. 154

Here we have a masterpiece article that beautifully exposes a major military collectable fraud mentioned in the previous post.

Carried out by "prominent" European dealers and experts, it concerns a very rare "prototype copy" of the German Blood Order. This piece is a fake, made in Poland and loudly "authenticated" by a number of prominent American collectors.

This article, by the redoubtable William Stump, is the most clear-cut and telling yet published.

We are reliably informed that various law enforcement agencies are expressing an interest in the entire subject of very high-priced and very fake items of German militaria.

January 15, 2015 No. 153

Here we have an auction of a really exciting piece of rare history for the absolutely discriminating collector! This is supposed to be a "rare and original prototype" Blood Order, designed and made only for the most elite of the NSDAP. In reality, this is a very entertaining fraud.

Hess' ribbon bar had other medal ribbons, the box is completely fake and the medal has been made in Poland and is offered on several websites for ten dollars but without the "Hess" engraving. Also, the black SS kepi is not one worn by Hess. His was piped as can be seen in period pictures.

The maker stamp on the back is one made and used by current Polish manufacturers.

Interested collectors might wish to look at the ['I offer' website](#) which is full of such "rare and unique" items. A Hungarian firm now makes the "German Order" one sees in all the really top level auction houses. and a popular military collector magazine shows some chinless wonder holding up an "SS Officer's Belt Buckle Gun." There was such a piece made, but not for the SS and only five copies were made, and all accounted for.

This fake "prototype" Blood Order is also part of the "Emil Maurice Collection" which is stuffed with exotic fakes, none of which ever belonged to Hitler's driver. The "Emil Maurice" collection was put together by Helmuth Weitze. Ray Zyla sold it in this country.

October 13, 2014 No. 152

I had the pleasure of knowing Hans-Ulrich Rudel when he kept an inn in the Schwarzwald. He showed me his original Golden Oakleaves with Swords and Diamonds and other badges. His piece was indeed made by Klein of Hanau and bore the 'OK' and the town seal of Hanau on it. There was no "wearing copy" ever given to him. He also had two other samples, also made by Klein but after the war. Rudel explained that he would sell these to "stupid American collectors."

Here he was following the example of General Hasso von Manteuffel who had fake "Diamonds" and General officer visored caps made up which he then sold to the gullible. But in fact, since both Rudel and von Manteuffel actually owned their fakes, they could rightfully claim that these were their property. They were not, obviously, of the period.

And the Austrian storage place for "unissued copies" of these diamond-studded medals is supposed to refer to the famous (and fictional) Schloss Klessheim giant vault that allegedly stored hundreds of rare, diamond-studded badges, discovered by a US combat engineer unit that did not exist during the Second World War.

Among the modern fakes attributed to this vault, which must have been the size of Grand Central Station, are German Crosses in Gold with Diamonds (there were indeed three found there, all of which are now in the US Army museum at West Point) and six Golden Oakleaves with Swords and Diamonds.

The only diamond-studded badge ever found in the small wall safe at Hitler's state guest house at Schloss Klessheim was a Social Welfare medal intended for Admiral Horthy's wife but never presented.

This piece is also in the West Point museum.

Rudel said there was only one period copy made and he had it. Other examples lovingly spoken of are post-war fakes. something put together for the German dealer who also had Klein make up fake German field marshal batons.

Klein only made up one such baton, for Model, and that is still in the hands of his family. There must be fifty batons with Klein markings on them in famous collections but they are all fake, just like the Golden Oakleaves in question.

And here, for the education of the readership, are a series of photographs of known fake Knights Cross fittings:





Of the five known surviving examples, Hermann Historica had auctioned three since 2010: Hitler's example in 2010 for €21,000, Johann Singer's example in 2011 for €5,800 and Rudolf Hess' badge in 2013 for €7,600. The other two examples are engraved to Emil Maurice and Heinrich Himmler. The Emil Maurice badge was featured in the January/February 2001 issue of *Militaria* magazine, in an article by Klaus D. Patzwall (Right). Jörg Nummergut's 2001/2002 edition of *Deutsche Orden und Ehrenzeichen bis 1945* referenced the award on Page 218, as the Hermann Historica catalogue mentioned.

The letter from Emil Maurice to which Hermann Historica referred is dated 16.2.1962. Maurice states therein that this award was commissioned from the Munich firm of Josef Fuess and awarded solely to men of the Stoßtruppe Adolf Hitler, as well as political leaders convicted and jailed with Hitler after the failed coup d'état on 9.11.1923: "...dieses Ehrenzeichen nur an die Männer des Stoßtrupps "Hitler" sowie deren politisches Führer, die bei dem Hitlerprozeß der Volksgerichts in München verurteilt und die Strafe auch auf der Festung Landsberg abgesessen haben, verleihen werden sollte."

werden durften.

Der Grund dafür war ein zweiter Entwurf (Medaille am Band), der später bekannte "Blutorden" des Juweliers Josef Fuess in München, ein persönlicher Freund Adolf Hitlers.

Der erste Entwurf, auch von Josef Fuess stammend, war mit einer Nadel zum anstecken versehen. Hitler gefiel der zweite Entwurf besser und er verbot alle weiteren Verleihungen und Tragen des Ersten. Von Josef Fuess stammte auch der Entwurf für das NSDAP-Parteiabzeichen (1920) ebenso das goldene Parteiabzeichen.

München, den 16. Februar 1962



Emil Maurice

München 27

Schumannstr. 5 - Tel. 458902

Maurice stated in his letter that Hitler's personal friend Josef Fuess subsequently produced a new design consisting of a medal on a ribbon and that Hitler, finding it an improvement on the badge, forbade the wearing of the pin-back badges he had awarded on the eve of the tenth anniversary of the Munich Putsch. Hitler's interdiction would explain, of course, why none of the hundred or so Putsch veterans thought by Emil Maurice to have received the badge were ever photographed wearing it, despite the fact that three months elapsed between the award of this special Honour Badge by Hitler on 8.11.1933 and his formal institution of the Blutorden as we know it in February 1934.

On 15.9.2007, the American collector Bob Coleman stated a thread on the Wehrmacht Awards forum to show off his Emil Maurice grouping, which included Maurice's "Stosstruppe Blood Order Badge", as Coleman described it. The grouping also included the above-referenced letter said to have been written in 1962 by Maurice. Coleman wrote: *"The Stosstruppe Blood Order Badge. In The Grouping, There Is A Letter From Maurice Describing This Badge As The Original Designed Blood Order. During The Period Of Time They Were Being Manufactured By Fuess, Hitler Decided To Redesign The Blood Order In To A Medal And Broaden The Award. Each Badge Was Awarded To A Stosstruppe Member. On The Reverse Is The Name Of The Recipient. I Will Not Show The Reverse Of This Badge Due To The Fact That I Do Not Want To Aid Fakers In Replicating This Rare Badge. According To The Maurice Letter, The Badges Were Awarded But Never Were To Be Worn."*



However, Coleman did post a photograph of the reverse of the badge elsewhere and a reader was kind enough to supply a copy for this article. The Emil Maurice badge on the left is the one featured in *Militaria* magazine in 2001 and the badge on the right is the one acquired by Coleman. Between 2001 and 2007, the 990 silver hallmark managed to migrate from the righthand to the lefthand side of the reverse although the other details remain very similar.



The same day, well-known American collector and dealer Bob Hritz (right) chimed in, writing: *"Having been priveleged to examine this group, at Bob's. I must say that I think this is the most important political group I have ever seen. The interaction of Maurice and Hitler, as young men after WWI, and that Hitler trusted Maurice as his driver and bodyguard. As the plot thickens, Maurice has twists and turns, but is never abandoned, by Hitler; although lesser men may have done so."* The following day, Mr Coleman added this statement: *"One Final Note, In Maurice's Notes On The Stosstruppe Blood Order Badge, He Noted They Were Awarded The Evening Of 9 November, 1933, Commemorating The 10th Anniversary Of The Putsch. One Of Our Other Colleagues On This Forum Also Owns One Of These Badges That He Posted Previously In Another Forum. One Day, We Had A Chance To Compare The Two Side By Side When We Met For Coffee."* The "Colleague" [sic] to whom Coleman was referring was none other than Hritz, owner of the badge allegedly awarded to Johann Springer, seen above with the Hess badge reportedly sold in November 2013 for €7,600. The badges belonging to the two Bobs were indeed the same.

On 26.9.2007, the historian and author Michael Miller, reminded the forum that Himmler was never a member of the Stoßtruppe Adolf Hitler after someone made a reference to "Himmler's Stosstruppe Badge". Coleman jumped in to field Mr Miller's comment: *"Maybe I Can Clear Up The Issue With Regards To Himmler. Maurice Stated In His Letter Regarding This Badge That It Was Also Given To Selected Party Members Who Were Prosecuted Following The Failed Putsch. This Would Explain Himmler Receiving A Badge"*. When Miller replied that Himmler had never been prosecuted for his part in the Putsch nor for any offence during the Weimar period, Coleman responded the following day in capitals, which equate to shouting in terms of netiquette: *"I GUESS STANDING AT THE BARRICADES AND HOLDING THE FLAG ON 9 NOVEMBER, 1923 WOULD QUALIFY HIMMLER FOR THIS BADGE. HE WAS THERE AND PART OF THE PUTSCH."*

In stepped Hritz to calm things down: *"The badge is really shrouded in mystery. We can find no photos of them being worn and no history of any urkunde for them. The best we have is the letter that was written by Emil Maurice where he mentions the badge. I cannot understand why Himmler would have one, other than because, by 1933, Hitler had placed his faith and trust in Himmler and Roehm was already losing Hitler's favor. However, this is only speculation. We only know of the badge being given, by Hitler, on 9 November, 1933, months before the first awards of the blood order. This is known through the Maurice letter. I look forward to learning of other examples and learning more about this elusive badge. Perhaps we will, one day, find a photo of the pin back award being worn, between Nov 1933 and April 8, 1934, when the first official Blood Orders were given. It took over a year to award all of them."*

This is a typical example of rather bad quality fakery. The reverse is a dead give away. For the few of the collectors with enough money to buy such pieces, I recommend taking it to a competent jeweler and have him examine the stones. It would take about ten seconds for him to determine if the stones set in the piece are older and probably genuine or modern and certainly fake



This piece is badly finished on the reverse and the “Juncker” stamp is incorrect. On such pieces, the “L” is followed with a slash and then the ‘12” marking. (L/12)



Here are two fake “Godet” pieces. The notorious Kleitmann had the Godet dies and cranked out several hundred Knights Cross fittings for his eager dealer friends. On original Godet pieces, the word ‘Silber’ appeared on the right side but the fake ones so marked have die errors so that the lettering reads “‘Sllber” and they forgot to dot their ‘i’

Newsletter, September 13, 2014 No. 151



Some years ago, the US-based firm of Barnacle Wharf bought 400 surplus German World War II military helmets from the Norwegian government.

These helmets had been left behind by the Germans when the war was over and they returned to Germany.

The helmets had then been overpainted with a light olive-green and a Norwegian state decal was applied. This decal consisted of a crowned lion holding an axe. These helmets sold for a retail price of \$15.00. The liners were painted a dark red but dealers found out that by removing them from the helmet and soaking them in acetone, all the post-war applied color red vanished, leaving the leather liner in the original color. While the interiors of these helmets had the original paint, the light olive-green postwar paint was only on the outside.

A dealer, Globe Militaria in Keene, New Hampshire, bought two hundred of these helmets and after cleaning up the liners, proceeded to attempt to repaint them in the correct colors.

As Mr. Meanen was not a painter, the results were terrible so, in frustration, as a joke and with the writer present, he proceeded to splash and dribble the contents of a garage full of enamel paints all over the surfaces of the helmets.

These Jackson Pollock-like messes were then baked in the Meanen oven until the enamel paint was set and he sold these as "rare SS camouflage helmets" through his monthly lists.



Now we see these abortions being hyped as “rare original Norwegian area German camouflaged helmets.” It is true the helmets had been purchased from Norway but the overpaintings were done many years after the end of the war and made the objects suitable only as parts helmets.

Now, as an antidote to the obviously concocted “Normandy” and “Anzio” helmets sprayed with a hobby model airbrush, we have the truly grotesque, and equally faked “Rare Norwegian” items.

Naturally, the congregations of collector dimwits (such as the WAF people), have rushed to make their very own pompous comments on these howlers. On various forums we see such remarks as:

“ Yes, my grandfather, who was in the US Air force, bought two of these beauties in Oslo in 1945....”

“We know where the secret cave is where the fanatical SS troops hid these rare and beautiful pieces in 1945...”

“These are unquestionably original and wonderful pieces! I agree with Captain Panzerfaust’s remarks that it is a fortunate collector who has one of these in his collection.”

“And now that trouble-making nut, Royster will probably tell you that these beauties are just fakes but we all know he knows nothing and is just jealous of the knowledge and real expertise of our membership...”

"picked up.... found lying in the street Norway May '45" "The owner went along to the German Barracks after the Germans left and picked it up as a young kid"

Since none of these grotesque repaints existed as such in Norway at any period, such stories are typical of those spread, like fertilizer, over the fallow fields of the collecting world.

The favorite piece of mendacity is, of course, the allegation that the abortion was “got direct from a vet.” The name of the vet is never mentioned. Or the breathless information that the gold wound badge with diamonds came directly from “the great Schloss Klessheim find.”

It is always a good idea to buy items, not stories, And any collector who would spend more than a few dollars for these “Norwegian” pieces needs to see an optometrist and get new glasses.

When we said that alleged German wartime medal presentation papers were always printed on paper that had no whiteners and did not react to the black light, many collectors who discovered they had albums full of glowing documents, howled with rage and claimed that Royster had no idea what he was talking about.

And when it was pointed out that wartime German camouflage paint was water-based and could easily be scrubbed off, more screams of rage followed. No man likes to hear that his beloved girl friend has two other boy friends, only one of them white, or that his precious “Anzio helmet” was painted two years ago by a 15 year old boy with a hobby spray gun.

Denial sets in and it is always the messenger, not the maker and faker, that gets the full blast of the raped collector’s fury.

And what can the breathless collecting world expect next?

Damascus SS general officer’s trouser buttons?

Adolf Hitler’s paint brushes?

The Damascus Honor Dagger of the German Garbage Collector’s Club?



And on the subject of the recent “Norwegian helmets,” we are told by a communicant that:” Someone has recently published a book on Norway Helmets and the author is a rabid fan of

outlandish fantasy and run of the mill hobby painted fakes. Jan M. Meland is the author and is busily engaged, like Maerz, in establishing a new branch of the militaria hobby. He is backed by his on-line trolling bullying cronies. He is the author of a book, 'German Combat Helmets- A Norwegian Collection' hopefully its circulation remains small confined to the dewy eyed and pea brained Walhalla and WAF TR idiots.

Newsletter, August 13, 2014 No. 150

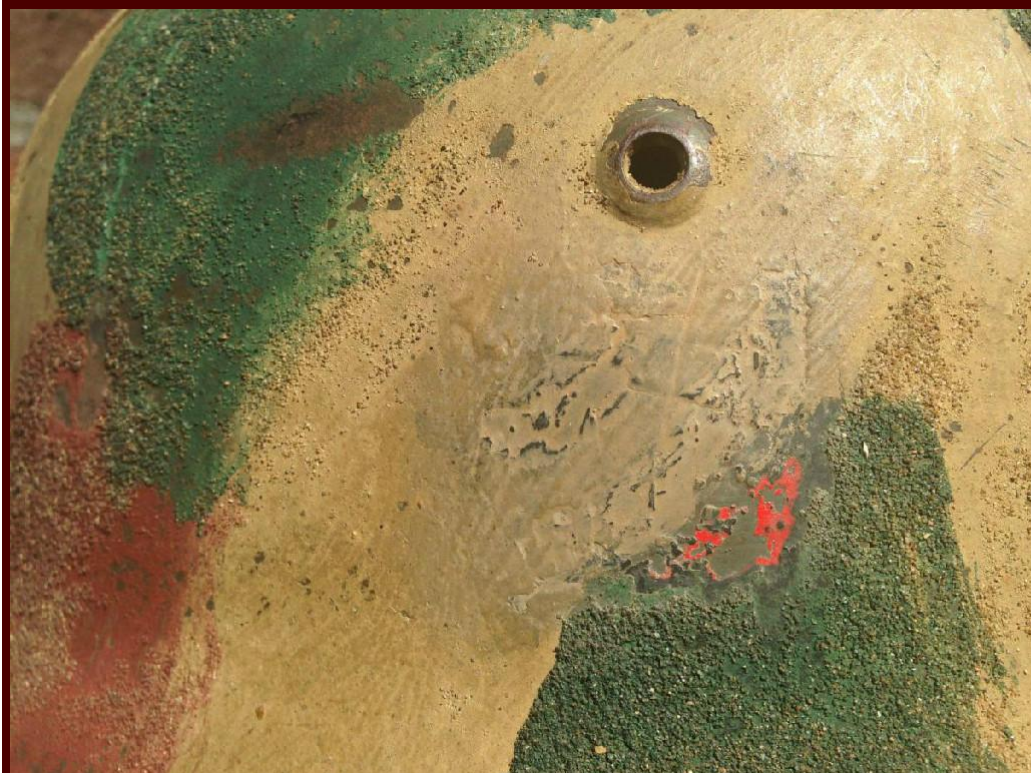
Since we began discussing faked German camouflage helmets, a number of collectors have sent in examples of these fakes.





This is an excellent example of a faked camouflage helmet. Note especially the delicate application of colors, obviously from a hobby spray gun. Real period German paint air guns were large and designed to cover large spaces, like a tank or a field cannon. These were incapable of delicate patterns.

Naval shore camouflage helmet:





This example shows the type of application used on wartime helmets. It is hand painted. It is interesting to note that all of these helmets have three color paint jobs and we only see a winter white camouflage on the hilariously funny "Stalingrad Pattern." Most of the three color items are either "Normandy" or "Anzio." Could there have been a Budapest issue? Perhaps a Cassino issue? What about a Warsaw Ghetto issue? Why just Anzio and Normandy?

Again, collectors offered such items are recommended to test the paints before buying. Permanent green or red/brown colors (and white) are water-bases and always come off if treated with water. If they do not come off, try acetone and if the color starts to come off, this is a sure sign that hobby paint was put on with a hobby airbrush.

Newsletter, July 3, 2014 No 149



Stunning Revelations About the King of the Collecting World~

The famous Pawn Stars celebrity, Craig Gottlieb, has a new thorn in his crown, that of grave robber!

An active member of the Max Show and the Show of Shows, and a former member of the bizarre "WAF," Gottlieb, who has a California auction and lives at 2955 Manchester Avenue, Cardiff By The Sea, CA 92007, has a pathological itch to be recognized by anyone and everyone as a great person.

His sudden departure from the Marine Corps is shrouded in mystery as are the numerous purported "veterans" who have given him such stellar collectables as the Adolf Hitler Desk Set, collectable grade SS Honor Rings, the Adolf Hitler uniform, the Ribbentrop uniform and many other very high-priced, and not original, items of Third Reich militaria.

And true to form, Gottlieb has been in Latvia working for the National Geographic magazine digging up German Wehrmacht and Soviet war dead and looting their skeletons of any military relics he could salvage. Gottlieb is also featured on the "Pawn Stars" as a soi-disant "expert" on firearms. He is a well-paid host and is a self-proclaimed star at many upscale military shows.

It is always extremely distasteful to see Jewish people merchandising German Third Reich memorabilia considering the vast flood of propaganda claiming that the Germans gassed millions of screaming Jews, the children and their pets during the war in mythic gas chambers. This would be akin to Armenians selling Turkish military relics, or Plains Indians selling Custer pieces.

But shame is not a part of the Gottlieb persona and now, we reliably learn, Craig is planning to excavate Civil War battlefield grave sites, hopefully to fondle more Confederate and Union bones and locate relics for his shop and auction.

“Grave robbing” on TV?

March 28, 2014 •

News Archaeology/Anthropology •

A couple of days ago National Geographic announced a new series called “Nazi War Diggers” (now deleted). This show, according to their own description, aims to bring to light “Untold numbers of soldiers and their weapons remain buried across the vast landscape of World War Two’s Eastern Front. Three war diggers are racing against time to save this history from being looted or lost. During the last year of World War Two, in Latvia’s Courland Peninsula, Hitler’s army was trapped between the Baltic Sea and Stalin’s rampaging Red army. Stephen Taylor, Kris Rodgers and Craig Gottlieb bring their specialist knowledge to one battlefield on that front line. Their quest – to hunt for relics and bodies, uncovering a forgotten story of World War Two’s bloody front. Craig, Kris and Stephen come face to face with the dangers and cost of war.”

As it was expected, the archaeological community received it with a prompt concern. First of all, the presentation video and photos displayed on the NatGeographic website (which were deleted as soon as reactions started pouring in) showed a total lack of archaeological procedures or osteological knowledge (e.g. one of the guys pulls a bone from a grave and identifies it as the humerus, and surprise: it is too long! which is quite expected given that it’s a... femur...you can watch the video as it was rescued by Archaeosoup here, min. 10:18, along with their comments). Also, the label itself might be problematic, as they are German graves and not Nazi graves, as stated here.

Secondly, one of the main actors seems to be a dealer in Nazi relics (talk about conflict of interests!).

And thirdly, and most importantly: there is a HUGE ethical problem with digging up graves of WWII victims. What we have heard is a painful history whose material remains (bodies and material culture) have been left to rest for 70 years. Therefore, to come now and turn this past in entertainment is just a major form of disrespect not only towards those dead people, but also towards the memory of what they represent- it’s a commodification of the horrors of the war (by turning the material culture into collectibles and TV show).

There have been a lot of negative reactions:

-John Roby from Digs&Docs, We don’t need a TV show about looting Nazi battlefields: “Time is not “running out” at all. There’s no pressing threat to the archaeological record of WWII battlefields besides unchecked development, climate change, and the looting of the sites

themselves. By broadcasting this program, the network is (indirectly, to be as kind as possible) encouraging more looting.”

TV Series Is Criticized in Handling of Deceased

National Geographic’s “Nazi War Diggers” has recently come under fire over its handling of WWII remains.

March 29, 2014

by Brent McCluskey

WWGuns.com

The “Nazi War Diggers” are described as archaeologists that race “against time to save this history from being looted or lost.” But their methods of excavation and handling of human remains have been deemed “particularly insensitive,” Daily Mail reports.

“This shows no evidence of even the most basic archaeological principles – this is treasure hunting, not archaeology,” said Dr. Tony Pollard, Director of the Center for Battlefield Archaeology at Glasgow University. “I have seen human remains brandished like trophies before but in dodgy YouTube videos. The fact this comes from a commissioned TV series is quite beyond belief.”

Dr. Sam Hardy from University College, London, accuses the “Nazi War Diggers” of amateurish work, claiming their work excavation of WWII troops is haphazard at best.

“Based on the preview video, the ‘Nazi War Diggers’ didn’t record their finding properly,” he said. “They didn’t take out the material carefully. The me, it look untrained and unsupervised. If I tried to excavate a skeleton like that on a dig I would have been stopped and thrown off the site. It’s slapdash and it destroys evidence.”

But while some may view the “Nazi War Diggers” with disdain, Nazi memorabilia specialist Craig Gottlieb, who is one of the program’s presenters, reasons the excavations help preserve history.

“I feel that by selling things that are Nazi related, and for lots of money, I’m preserving a part of history that museums don’t want to bother with,” Gottlieb said.

“Nazi War Diggers” is scheduled to air in the UK on May 13.

Newsletter June 28, 2014 No 148

Now to move away from Third Reich fakes and fakers, let us consider an even more profitable area of collecting, and faking, Imperial German.

And we can see in some of the “very best” European auction houses, an enormous flood of Pour le Merites, Black Eagle orders, Jerusalem crosses, reserve steins, medal bars and various documents dating back to the reign of Frederick the Great.

They are making Garde du Corps helmets, shakos for the First Guard Regiment of Foot, Saxon Garde Reiter helmets and many, many more.

Many of the top Prussian (and Imperial Russian) enameled decorations were made by the very crooked Kurt-Gerhard Kleitmann who used Godet dies he bought when that company went out of business.

His dies have also been used to make the very popular ‘L/50’ Oakleaves to the Knights Cross.

Kleitmann made most of the Imperial German, Russian and Austrian high orders and the market was flooded with these.

Now, someone has obtained the dies for the Berlin firm of Paul Meybauer and we see hundreds of Imperial helmet plates, decorations and insignia lavishly decorating the more important militaria auction houses in Europe for the happiness of eager collectors and the enrichment of the crooked auction houses.

Collectors should note that such attributions as “From the Oswald Flummeltante Collection” are perhaps impressive but in the end, utterly worthless in determining authentication.

And it should be noted that all, that is all, of Kaiser Wilhelm II’s militaria uniforms and orders are still in the museum at Haus Doorn in Holland and could never be found on this or that prestigious auction house’s listings.

There are three firms, two in Germany and one in Hungary, who make up the reservist steins (many for top Imperial regiments) and aside from the Godet fakes, there is a Polish firm in Lodz that makes up wonderful PIMs and Rote Adler Ordens as well as the Iron Crosses from the 1914 period. These are of three piece construction, vaulted with iron centers and retail for ten dollars US to the trade (only)

Newsletter May 29, 2014 No. 147

This delightful bit of humor was on the Gottlieb website. It is as fictional as the Maerz books he mentions. The “Schloss Klessheim” discovery is an invention by Jason Burmeister to sell his expensive fake medals and has no foundation in truth. If one reads Burmeister’s howlingly funny account of this “enormous cache of rare pieces,” the name of the U.S. Army unit alleged to have found them is of a unit that never existed during the Second World War and a very few decorations found by the Army in a small safe at Klessheim are *all* in the U.S. Army Museum at West Point, where they have been since 1945, and not in the hands of sleazy dealers.

History Hunter (Craig Gottlieb)

Knight's Cross 800/4, Ground Breaking #4437

Price: \$14,995.00

Shipping \$25.00 Per Order

“This is a rare opportunity to own a Knight's Cross that was acquired from a living veteran, as well as a cross that is changing the body of Knight's Cross research knowledge, as we know it. It is a mint-conditioned 800/4 by S&L (an A type), that I personally acquired from the living veteran who got it out of Schloß Klessheim, just before the war ended. The cross itself is in mint condition, as is the ribbon. Box shows very minor age. Until this discovery, no example of a cross so-marked, was documented as having come from a pre-armistice source. This one is featured in a Dietrich Maerz article, and is the cross that has now answered the heretofore debatable question of whether or not the 800/4 Knight's Cross is a wartime produced cross. Until the discovery of this cross, it was thought that these crosses could be post-war. Well, no longer. In summary, a mint cross, a very rare cross, and one that is the first of it's type to be authenticated as original by Maerz.”

Newsletter May 14, 2014 No. 146

Subject: Fake camouflage helmets From: XXXXXXXXXXXX

To: adroyster@hotmail.com
Subject: Re white winter camo helmets
Date: Mon, 12 May 2014 14:07:49 -0400

Hello

First week April this year I was fortunate to meet up with my very close WW2 German veteran friend who resides in here in the US.

Fought on the Eastern Front (Hermann Göring Div.) MG42 gunner in the early winter of '44 they were issued white paste in tins along with box of brushes for camouflage, I wanted to know the 'type' he said it was a matt finish dried quickly not unlike a modern whitewash but, it was very hard to remove and of course didn't come off with snow or water/rain but wear away from combat use handling etc. no one to his knowledge wore a issued helmet cover least he can't recall, he has no idea what happened on the Western front regarding helmet painting.

By the first week February '45 his worn helmet (still with remains of white) was discarded along the road by then nobody front line were wearing their helmets apart from some officers rear echelon etc. only their wool caps while continuing to fight on the long retreat, he mentioned mid feb. (he remembers the date well because it was his birthday) not getting reprimanded for throwing away his gas mask.

He along with his comrades agreed the helmet was too heavy a 'horrible burden' his words, discarding anything weapon related was strictly forbidden.

On Mon, May 12, 2014 at 8:21 PM, Arthur Royster
<adroyster@hotmail.com> wrote:

Your friend is in serious error. The white, brown and green paints that were issued to the troops for camouflage purposes (after January, 1943) were glycol based which means that they easily came off with application of water.

Current "camouflaged" helmets are almost always over-painted with model hobby paint which does not come off. Therefore, the

"Normandy," "Anzio" and "Stalingrad" over-paints that are enamel paint are guaranteed not authentic to the period. First war camouflage helmet paints were in oils and when dried, do not come off but the faked WW II ones are identical.

Date: Tue, 13 May 2014 08:10:03 +0200
Subject: Re: Re white winter camo helmets
From: [XXXXXXXXXXXXXX](#)
To: adroyster@hotmail.com

Hello,

The only wartime 'theatre' finish of a permanent nature that I have seen on German combat helmets relates to North Africa. Some M35/40 helmets were refinished in a sand colour containing not sand but aluminium particulate, like the M40 refinished helmets. I would surmise that these issued to the initial Afrikakorps troops. I have never seen M38 FJ helmets treated this way but have seen 'desert' or 'Mediterranean' finishes in a kind of poster paint, which could of course be scrubbed off as and when the helmet needed to be returned to issue spec.

From: adroyster@hotmail.com
To: [XXXXXXXXXXXXXX](#)
Subject: RE: Re white winter camo helmets
Date: Tue, 13 May 2014 06:27:22 -0700

Absolutely correct.

The tan paint was Luftwaffe aircraft paint and hand-applied in the theater.

I have seen a para helmet, genuine, picked up in Sicily that had a tan textured finish.

The WAF idiots collect multi-colored helmets with enamel hobby camo colors, applied well after the war.

Imagine, if you will, the situation during the combat years.

Spring, with its greenery, comes. The helmet is daubed with green paint.

Then, in autumn, browns are added and in winter, white.

One has a white helmet in spring and that would make a wonderful target so the color is washed off and the cycle begins again.

The WAF twits believe all the painting is permanent and the WAF twits are wrong.

If you look at the Heeres Verordnungsblatt you will note the paints are glycol based and removable with a brush and water when the occasion arises.

The WAF morons are in states of denial and cherish their "Anzio" and "Normandy" patterns with the frenzy of a mama monkey clutching her baby presidential candidate.

Newsletter April 7, 2014 No. 145

There has been a good deal of collector interest, and concern, about so-called "camouflage" German helmets from the Second World War.

I have been collecting for fifty years and have a decent collection of original period helmets. .

All, and I mean all, camouflaged helmets I have seen that are genuine to the period follow certain rules.

Firstly, the base color of all German weapons and equipment (such as artillery, tanks, etc.) was a dark yellow after January of 1943.

I have seen, and have one example, of original helmets that were camouflaged.

All, without exception, had the dark yellow base coat.

This was enamel.

The three other camouflage colors were a green, red-brown and white (for winter).

Now we come to the interesting part.

The three additional camouflage colors were glycol-based paints, issued in tins as a thick paste.

This paste was thinned with water or gasoline and sprayed or hand-painted onto vehicles, weaponry and often, helmets.

While the dark yellow paint was an enamel, the three other paints were essentially water-based.

If you test these overpaints with water on a swab, the colors will start to come off.

If they do not, and you try some solvent, the colors will start to come off.

Original overpaints do not react to the solvent and modern hobby paints (for plastic tank models) do.

So if your camouflage pattern piece has glycol-based paint, it is probably original to the period but if the overpaint is enamel, it is a modern fraud. Also note that the post-war fakes have the camouflage colors sprayed on while known originals were hand-painted.

And all the Norwegian surplus helmets are original German manufacture and issue but the liners were painted a dark red after the war and there was new paint (olive green) put on the top and a Norwegian decal added. These used to be available for \$15.00.

And stories about "Anzio, Normandy or Stalingrad" camouflage patterns are inventions, designed solely to sell recently overpainted productions.

On the inside back flap of period helmets are to be found the maker marks. Here is a list of period makers:

ET (later ckl)	Eisen-u.Hüttenwerke AG	Thale
NS	Vereinigte Deutsche Nickelwerke AG	
Q	Fa. Quist, Esslingen	
SE	Sächsische Emaille- u. Stanzwerke AG	
FS or EF	Emallierwerle AG	

Also, the leather helmet chinstraps carried the name of their manufacturer. These were:

C.Korn	Alzey	
G. Singer	Klattau	
G. Schiele	Loburg	
O/0750/0100	Carl Hepting & Co.	Stuttgart-Feuerbach

Newsletter March 19, 2014 No. 144

The publication of an article, nicely illustrated, of a so-called "Hitler tunic and cap" being

offered to the public, created a most entertaining uproar from certain circles. Here is a letter from someone claiming inside information on the origins of this piece as well as my answer.

From: fpetri@eastex.net
To: AD@ADRoysterMilitaria.com
Subject: Dissecting a Fraud
Date: Sun, 16 Mar 2014 21:45:50 -0500

Dear Sir.

I read your Letter about Dissecting a Fraud in regards to the Adolf Hitler uniform on the Internet. Maybe I can offer a little insight into a possible problem with this uniform. Please read this email to the end in order to understand what I entirely have to say.

I attended Lufkin High School (Texas) and graduated in the Class of 1961. I had grown up in a one parent (Father) family as my Mother and Father were divorced and my Father was a disabled Army veteran from WWII. It was always my dream to grow up and join the military. In 1959 I worked for another WWII veteran at his Television Repair Shop and he gave me a WWII German Helmet and a large Nazi Flag that he had brought back from the war in Germany. From that point on I was hooked on German relics. After graduation in June of 1961 I immediately joined the United States Air Force and was transported to Lackland AFB San Antonio, Texas for basic training. At Lackland AFB I was given a battery of test and sent to Nuclear Weapons School to be a Weapons Specialist to load nukes on bombers. My first base was Dyess AFB at Abilene, Texas where I loaded nukes on B-47 Bombers. In 1962 I was transferred to Barksdale AFB, Louisiana where I loaded nukes on B-52s and GAM-77 Missiles. Having this great desire to collect German WWII relics I started attending the local Gunshows in Shreveport. I was also married and living off base in Shreveport at the time. It was at one of these Gunshows that I met 1Lt. Philip Lieber who came up to me because he saw me looking at some Hitler pictures and heard me asking questions about Hitler. He informed me that he had been a Lieutenant in WWII fighting the war in Germany and that he was the first American soldier that went into Hitlers Home and Headquarters in Munich, Germany (The Brown House) and that he brought back all of Hitler's uniforms and personal property from that location. After informing him that I was in the Air Force and stationed at Barksdale AFB Lieutenant Lieber invited me to his home in Shreveport to see Hitler's personal items. An appointment was made and when I arrived at his home I found it to be a normal modest brick home and nothing that a rich person would be living in. I also found that Lieber was living alone at least at this time. I did not know if he was married or not. He went into a back room and pulled out a large trunk and started pulling out things to show me and told me that I was the first to see this stuff since he got back from WWII. He showed me two Hitler short brown SA type uniform shirts like in the pictures of Hitler that he had. One with all insignia and medals and one without. He showed me Hitler's hat with the Holters sweat shield and no wreath on the front. It never had a wreath as he showed me pictures of Hitler wearing that hat. There was a very beautiful Silver Mercedes Note Card and Pencil Box with a Gold Eagle and A.H. on the top of the box and also on the cards inside and Adolf Hitler on the yellow wood pencils. There was also his business cards for Reichschancellor in the silver box. There were his personal shaving set and drafting set both with A.H. on them, a lot of his

Mother's pictures including a beautiful ceramic one and many other things including extra uniform medals for Hitler's uniforms, etc. Lt. Lieber offered me all of Hitler's personal items and uniforms, etc including all the items in the trunk for \$10,000 cash. I would have mortgaged my children to buy it all if I had children, but a 19 year old just did not have \$10,000 at the time and it may as well have been a \$1,000,000 that he was asking for. I had to tell him that I did not have the money and could not borrow it either. Lt. Lieber gave me some of Hitler's extra medals (WWI Iron Cross 1st Class, WWI Wound Badge, Eagle Tie Pin from a Hitler Tie, a Hitler's Party pin (not a Golden Party Badge), a stack of Gold Eagle A.H. note cards, a Hitler Business Card and a State Nazi Flag all taken from the Brown House. When I got lonely for the Hitler Uniform I would just go visit him. Also I know all of his Hitler items were real because he showed me his Army Uniform with the ruptured duck, his dog tags, pictures of him in Germany, copies of orders, photographs of him at the Brown House and best of all a Life odr Look Magazine with him on the front cover walking down the gang plank of a ship coming home carrying Hitler's uniform and holding it up for the photographer.

In late 1964 I was flown secretly to Guam with the 2nd Bomb Wing to load conventional bombs to bomb the Ho Chi Min Trail for ARCLIGHT in the Viet Nam War. When I returned to Carswell AFB, Ft Worth and I never saw Lt. Lieber again. I got out of the Air Force and become a Police Officer in Nacogdoches, Texas. About 1975 plus or minus while Watch Commander (Day Shift Lieutenant) I received a letter with pictures from a man named Roger Steele in California wanting to sell me the Silver Hitler Box that I immediately recognized as Lieber's box along with some other Hitler and Goring items. I was immediate suspect and contacted the police department in California for a records check of Roger Steele. They said that it was too long to send by teletype and said they would send it by mail. They sent me a box that contained a copy of a rap sheet that weighted about a pound. Roger Steele was an alias (don't recall his real name) and he was guilty of burglary, theft, fraud, robbery, counterfeiting, possession of stolen property, fencing and many other felonies. They said that presently he was known to be buying stolen real expensive Nazi relics and having them reproduced in China and selling them as originals. Later I heard at the Houston Gunshow that Lt. Lieber had been burglarized and all his Hitler items had been stolen. Then I heard that Mohawk Arms in New York had bought them. I don't know if they bought them from Roger Steele or someone else. If they bought them from Roger Steele did they buy the real ones or China fakes??? Later I heard that the police recovered some of Lieber's items from Mohawk Arms in New York. The burglary report made this easy. I also heard Mohawk Arms lost all the money they had paid for them. Later I then heard Mohawk Arms bought them again from the owner which means that they in essence paid twice for them real or not. I don't know who the owner was at that time. I also don't know if any arrest were made or not. Then I heard the present owner bought them from Mohawk Arms and thus the recent auction and your letter about same only the uniform would only be a drop in the bucket compared to what I saw in 1962.

When I received an email from the new owner about the auction I went to the web site and viewed the photographs. I emailed him back and informed him that I had examined all of the Lieber items in 1962 and asked him to send me good detailed photographs. He emailed back that if I send him a signed affidavit attesting to same and that his items were them that he would send me the pictures. I never answered or sent any letter because I will not be blackmailed for photographs.

Now specifically the hat. The hat I saw was basically the same hat only it was crushed and looked like it had been in the road and run over about a thousand times. The bill was flat and hanging by a thread or two and the bream was completely flat from being on the bottom of the trunk for so many years. I don't believe the hat was in that shape at the Brown House and I do think that Lieber just could not have taken good care of it in the trunk in Germany. In fact I am surprised that some lowly GI did not steal all of it from him. There sure was a lot of that going around then.

I hope that I have enlightened you if only a little.

Floyd Petri

Chief of Police Retired
Special Agent Retired
US Army Retired

Response:

Dear Mr. Petri:

Thank you for your input on this subject.

There are a number of points you raised that I will address.

Firstly, the Braun Haus in Munich was bombed flat before the American troops entered the town. There were no "Hitler uniforms" or such relics inside the rubble.

Secondly, just before the end of the war, acting upon Hitler's orders, his SS adjutant, Julius Schaub went to Hitler's apartment on the Prinz Regenten Strasse and burnt any uniforms, hats, papers, etc. he found there.

I knew Schaub and he told me this in 1951 and later Frau Anne Winter, Hitler's housekeeper verified all of his statements.

Thirdly, the fake uniform now being offered by Gottlieb originally surfaced via George Petersen and Mohawk Arms.

The tunic had been purchased, as part of a lot, from Globe Militaria, unissued, for ten dollars.

The tunic was too large for Hitler and had the wrong colored buttons.

A fake "Holters" tailor's label was added but the crooks overlooked an RZM "Mass Tailored" stamp inside. A custom, tailor-made uniform would not have such a stamp. The two are contradictory.

The "Blood Order" ribbon on the tunic pocket was not correct and was an Iron Cross II class

ribbon. The "Blood Order" ribbon on the present tunic is also an Iron Cross II ribbon.

The armband on all original Hitler tunics of this sort was red silk, not cotton or wool.

Also, on originals, there was a cloth loop on the upper right shoulder for the leather strap to go through and prevent the strap from sliding off the shoulder. This piece does not have this loop.

And the Iron Cross I class on the pocket of the assembled fake had a pin back while Hitler's Iron Cross I medal was a screw back.

All of these, and other, points are easily proven by period photographs.

The hat now associated with the tunic is a very recent fake and a bad one.

Among other points, the Holters logo is printed, not onto the cloth of the inside top of the cap but on a piece of modern clear plastic. On an original, the logo would have been printed directly onto the cloth of the top and a rigid celluloid sweat shield sewn down on top of it.

On all of Hitler's caps, the eagle, and later, after 1938, the wreath and cockade, were sewn into the hat and on the Gottlieb fake, the eagle is sewn down on a piece of white cloth backing, cut out and then glued down and not embroidered into the hat. Also, looking at the fake eagle, one can clearly see the pattern of the tricot behind the swastika running opposite to that of the hat.

And there were no "extra" medals in Hitler's apartment and the Braun Haus was thoroughly flattened so there were no medals, note pads, or mugs etc there.

When Money Magazine approached me, as an expert, concerning the tunic, (the owners were seeking a "puff" piece to assist in its sale) I advised them, as I have written above, that the tunic was put together and never belonged to Hitler.

They published this information and as a result, the tunic was not sold. They also sent me a number of their photographs of the assembled fraud, pictures I still have.

I always wondered what happened to it and now I know. The hat, a recent fake, must have been added later. There are some mugs with Hitler's face on them in this offering, purported to have belonged to him but these are kitch items sold by the thousands at Party rallies.

A similar cover story about the "Adolf Hitler" desk set was put about as having come, first from the Fuehererbau and later from the Braun Haus.

The desk set, like the tunic and cap, is also not original to the period.

I hope this input is of assistance to you.

Cordially

A.D. Royster

Newsletter March 15. 2014 No. 143

Here we have a rather poor fraud that might fool the average collector but which would never pass muster with an expert. This is a so-called "Hitler Brownshirt" uniform and cap that was seen at the SoS.

Without any question, it is a crude fake.

Here is a front-left view of the display with critique:



<http://www.craiggottlieb.com/engine/inspect.asp?Item=6475&Filter=German+Militaria>

This is a standard SA shirt but it never belonged to, nor was every worn by, Hitler. In the first place, the buttons are the wrong color. The buttons on Hitler's shirt, as may be seen in many period color photographs, were silver, not gold. The Iron Cross first class is not correct to the uniform. Other period pictures show very clearly that the medal was a screw-back production and this one is pin back. And again, many period pictures always show the wound badge much higher up on the pocket. Also, the belt shoulder strap is the wrong style and was not worn by Hitler.



<http://www.craigcottlieb.com/engine/inspect.asp?Item=6475&Filter=German+Militaria>
Here is a front-right view of the piece. Note that the so-called 'Bloodorder' ribbon on the pocket is not original. It is an Iron Cross 2nd class ribbon from the Second World War. And Hitler's Brownshirt had a loop sewn into the right shoulder because Hitler had sloping shoulders and the loop was to prevent the strap from slipping off. This strap was to be found on all of his original uniform tunics and overcoats.



<http://www.craigcottlieb.com/engine/inspect.asp?Item=6474&Filter=German+Militaria&Name=Hitler%27s+Early+Political+Visor>

This is the embroidered eagle from the cap. In all cases, this emblem was embroidered directly into the cap itself and this picture shows an embroidered eagle that has been made on a white cloth background and then cut out. And one can note that behind the swastika, the brown cloth pattern runs opposite to the pattern on the cap, proving that this was applied later. This is a dead give-away but there is more.



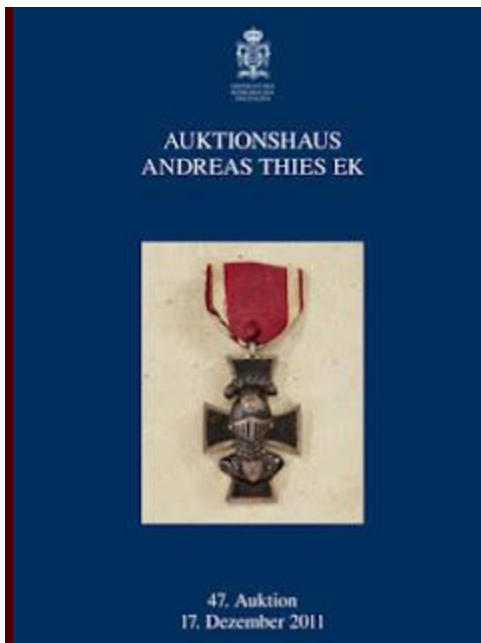
<http://www.craigsgottlieb.com/engine/inspect.asp?Item=6474&Filter=German+Militaria&Name=Hitler%27s+Early+Political+Visor>

This is the manufacturer's sweat shield from the inside top of the alleged Hitler hat. The logo is correct but it is very clear that it is printed on modern plastic instead on the cap lining and the original stiff celluloid that would have been used in an original period Holters piece is modern soft plastic

Newsletter February 12. 2014 No. 142

Here is an excellent analysis of a higher-level of the collecting world that is well worth the reading. It was written and published by W. Stump, one of the best analysts in the collecting world.

INGO BLASS & THE OMSA CONNECTION



Readers who keep an eye on the international militaria auction scene may have noticed the sale in December 2011 by the German auction house Andreas Thies of “The Ernst Blass Collection, Part 1”. Ernst Erich Blass, sometimes known as Ingo, was a Hamburg dealer and collector who died in 2010. His shop, Militaria Ernst Blass, was on the Schauenburgerstraße in the city’s Altmarkt district. He was also known for his reference works, like *Die Orden und Ehrenzeichen von Thailand*, and occasional reprints of period references, like *Der Lohn Der Tat*, although the Blass edition was a smaller format monochrome reprint of the 1944 original, which was in colour. Blass also collaborated in the production of reference works, like the Hamelman-Martin book on the Orden Pour le Mérite, *The History of the Prussian Pour le Mérite Order 1740 – 1918*.



A Blass fake that caught out quite a few collectors in its day was the so-called “Reproduction Type 2” of the First World War Siamese Victory Medal, of which just 1,500 genuine examples were struck by the Siamese government after the war. However, Blass excelled when it came to the orders and decorations of his own country and of the states and principalities of pre-1918 Germany. Not that all of his output involved outright fakes. He produced Imperial medal bars

comprising genuine orders and medals, using period rangliste to make up medal bars as worn by famous recipients at various points in their careers.

Blass was known for his large collection of Imperial German orders and decorations, as well as his knowledge of the orders and medals from other countries like, for example, Thailand. But some collectors and a few of his fellow dealers also knew old Ingo through his activities as a master forger. Perhaps it is going too far to describe the old scoundrel as a master forger, given that he merely commissioned top quality forgeries of various orders and medals, his talents lying in the care with which he picked the handful of dealers, auctioneers and collectors he trusted to pass these fakes off on unwitting buyers in Europe and the United States without flooding the market.



One of Blass's associates in the United States was the late S. Gregory Yasinitsky, also known by his nickname of "Yash". A former Military Policeman who served in World War Two and in Germany in the early years of the American occupation, afterwards joining the San Francisco Police Department, Yasinitsky was the founding member and longtime President of the Orders and Medals Society of America, or OMSA, which he set up in 1949.

Born in China in 1927 to Russian emigrés, Sviatoslav Gregoriyevich Yasinitsky was also a militaria dealer, running The Medal Exchange in San Francisco whilst not really serving the city's taxpayers as a police detective. Yasinitsky is reported by someone of his generation who knew him well to have sold a considerable number of high end fakes. These included at least twenty "Godet" Oakleaves and Oakleaves and Swords, around forty Hero of the Soviet Union insignia and other Soviet orders from Rudolf Souval and around a dozen Medals of Honor supplied by a firm in the United States. Dr Kurt-Gerhard Klietmann who, like his compatriot Blass, was a member of the OMSA, supplied the "Godet" awards. Klietmann also supplied Yasinitski with very convincing *Orden Pour le Mérite*. And when Klietmann ceased trading, Ernst Blass stepped in to keep several of Klietmann's trade customers, including the OMSA founder, supplied with equally convincing fakes and restrikes.



[Read More](#)

Newsletter February 9, 2014 No. 141



Original Standard Bearer's gorget for the Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler, worn from 1934 to 1938 when replaced by the standard pattern SS gorget. A question arose as to whether this gorget was unique or if identical examples were worn by the bearers of the Sturmabannfahnen of the LAH.

The most authoritative comments suggest that the battalion flag bearers actually used the standard SA/SS gorget as worn by other SS units prior to 1938.

Newsletter February 6, 2014 No. 140

Instead of an article on a glittering fake, being offered to a select group of nitwits by a merchandiser in fakes, we are showing a genuinely original piece as well as some additional historical material.



This is the dress medal bar of Reichsführer Heinrich Himmler along with the ribbon bar. The SS 12 year long service medal is very scarce and has been extensively copied. The arms of the original are relatively thin and their surfaces are lightly damascened so that they show a “brushed” texture. Also of note is the ribbon for the Memel medal. On originals, the green center stripe is a light green and on copies, the green is a much darker green. This medal has the original light green. It should be noted that in 1942, the color was changed from light to dark but the lighter color is found on the older and original issue pieces.

The medal and ribbon bar was obtained from Himmler’s villa on the Tegernsee in 1945 by a U.S. Army medical officer, Dr. Heinz A. von Hungen along with a carved wooden chair, three earlier note books in Himmler’s handwriting and a file of letters from his brother, Gebhardt.

Also in the collection of the late Dr. von Hungen, was a three hundred plus page typed manuscript on the history of the NSDAP from 1919 through 1942. This is on large, watermarked paper and typed with the large type machine used by Hitler. The initials of his secretaries are on the cover page. This document consists of Hitler’s own version of the Nazi party and every page contains corrections or emendations in Hitler’s handwriting.

Von Hungen also obtained this, in a locked metal box, from the Himmler villa on the Tegernsee.

One of the most fascinating aspects of this work concerns Hitler’s attack on Russia in June of 1941. According to Hitler himself, he learned in late 1940 from a Swedish source in their Embassy in Moscow, that Stalin was gearing up for a Soviet attack on Germany in early summer of 1941 (after the Russian roads had dried out from their winter wetness) and that Stalin’s pact with Hitler of 1939 was designed by the Russian dictator to instigate a European war that Russia could benefit from by weakening Germany to the point where Stalin could invade, destroy the

hated Nazi government and, most important, gain control of the vital Ruhr industrial area.

In other words, Hitler's attack on Russia was purely pre-emptive and not an attempt on Hitler's part to emulate Napoleon!

Newsletter February 3, 2013 No. 139

A wonderful discovery revealed to the collecting world!

<http://www.wehrmacht-awards.com/forums/showthread.php?t=717482>

Craig and his creative friends never give up.

His co-religionist, Fat Basil, came up with "The Mengele Diaries" which are as fake as all the other Mengele papers...and they know it.

In the columns of small-town newspapers, planted there by ambitious dealers and on the biased and nonsensical collector forums we see such thrilling pieces of history as:

"Investment Quality SS Honor Rings" recently cast just for you, the "Adolf Hitler Desk Set" for that Special Collector in Florida, "The Sepp Dietrich Honor Sword," "The Goering Wedding Sword," the presentation papers for the "Grand Cross" (This fake from the Precious Stevie Wolfe) and on and on.

Of course someone with no brains and a dad with money will want to buy this.

Maybe Johnson will put it into one of his books on fakes (but not titled as such) with an attribution underneath 'From the Rodney G. Pissgums Collection' and Rodney will wet himself with pleasure.

How about Ernie Cyst, Collector of SS trouser buttons?

Ernie is the proud possessor of a wonderful collection of over 400 buttons from the pants of various top SS officials, a stunning collection that is always shown and widely admired at all the major militaria shows.

Ernie has Sepp Dietrich, Reinhard Heydrich and, Glory of Glories, Heinrich Himmler's trouser buttons.

Ernie lives with his mother, Inez, in Bad Seepage, Ohio and has his world-famous collection down in his basement apartment.

Visitors are welcome!

Recycled chewing gum is available to one and all.

The Wehrmacht Awards Forum is a constant source of humor, filled with fakes and psycho-babble

At least its members do not have to concern themselves with paying good money for haircuts.

They can get them at home with a pencil sharpener.

Newsletter January 18, 2013 No. 138

With a flood of modern copies of Wehrmacht camouflage uniforms now on the market, we are herewith reprinting some very interesting, and valuable, reference material on this subject.

The material, covering original German camouflage, is to be found in "Tactical and Technical Trends," a publication from the U.S. War Department. This article is in Issue Number 53 of November, 1944 and is from pages 41-53. The reason this is valuable reference is that the uniforms are all original to the period and not recent, and inaccurate, copies.

These publications from the period contain much interesting material and we will be reprinting sections from them in the future.

[Read More](#)

Newsletter Jan 14, 2014 No. 137



Reproduction death's head (top of cranium to bottom of the jaw) 29mm
Original death's head (same measure) 27mm
Mollo drawing from Vol. 4, p.31 26.5mm
Reproduction collar tab dimensions 49mm x 65mm (less piping)
Original collar tab dimensions 41mm x 55mm (less piping)
Mollo drawing tab dimensions 41mm x 55mm

Newsletter January 10, 2014 No. 136

We have just received a number of photographs from a Chinese manufacturer of rare Third Reich militaria. I am printing three representative pictures but there are at least ten more.





What we have here is a counterfeit Deutschland Erwache standard which the company, Lao-Tsing Militaria Productions of Hong Kong, is making and selling, wholesale, for \$1,000, shipping extra.

The eagle topping the box is correctly made and the electro-galvanic process is used. The aluminum box is of the proper metal and construction and these people now supply the following names of units:

'Adolf Hitler,' 'München 1,' 'Oberbayern,' and 'Feldhernhalle.'

Also made is the 'NSDAP' backing plate. The first three have a black background while the last one is in red. Note the excellent detailing on the

tassels, always a weak point. The banner is a small masterpiece of construction and appearance.

The oak poles are painted either black or stained a medium brown and are of two piece construction.

Our communicant, who has seen one of these, tells us that with a little antiquing, these new pieces can pass every test for authenticity.

Now we are awaiting the appearance of one of these on the usual glitterati site, and appearing in the usual top-of-the-line militaria auction, accompanied by the, again, usual paid-for puff piece in some regional newspaper, an article showing the dealer proudly holding up his recently acquired, from the usual "vet" precious treasure, soon to belong to a discriminating collector.

Christmas Newsletter

December 23, 2013 No. 135

At one time, militaria collecting was an interesting hobby but it has degenerated into a camping ground for fools.

An army of ignorant crooked dealers forced up the marketplace prices in order to make money.

To accomplish this, they lied repeatedly, invented items which never existed, dealt almost exclusively in fakes they purchased from the world-wide manufacturers, wrote, or had other write in their name, books extolling invented fakes and generally behaved like cunning simians.

But even more distasteful are the legion of small-time collectors and those with family money (most of them are incapable of earning it themselves) who seek fame through possession of improbable "rare" pieces.

They now find their once-valuable collections of glittering fakes worthless. To sell Moelders Diamonds, Stars of the Grand Cross, Mengle diaries, Skorzeny Mussolini watches, Hitler rings, rare camouflaged German military helmets, Damascus daggers a la Atwood, SS uniforms made from Berlin police tunics and Swedish army pants, is a growing impossibility.

The alleged forums are filled with hundreds of miserable creatures with small minds, poor

language skills and a desire to be noticed by others of the same stripe.

We note a number of “Really Rare” badges, touted by the late Kleitmann before his arrest for fraud, that have a maker’s name engraved in flowing script on the broad pin. One can see this on the fake “Guerrilla Warfare Badge in Gold With Diamonds” that has a Junckers inscription or the “German Cross in Gold with Diamonds” that carried a similar inscription for the Munich firm of Rath.

The Knight’s Cross of the War Service Cross in Gold did not exist during the course of the Third Reich but now many collectors own these, most stemming from the invented finds from Schloss Klessheim.

And then there are the laughable, and invented, “SS belt buckle guns”, the short-barreled “Gestapo issue” P-38s, the “Sepp Dietrich Honor Sword” (this one did not come from the immense vaults of Klessheim but the shop of Ben Sweringen of Texas), hundreds of fake oil pictures attributed to Adolf Hitler (who never painted in oils) enough field marshal’s batons to fill a box car and on and on.

If you want to see what is new in fakes, look at the offerings on the auctions specializing in German militaria.

Militaria collector large shows look like something painted by Bosch and are essay in high humor. These shows, and forums, are not gathering places for serious collectors but a ship of fools which, like the Titanic, has run into its very own iceberg.

Newsletter December 11, 2013 No. 134

Here we have some pictures of items manufactured in England by one Israel Hand of London. These are widely advertised on such stellar sites as ‘Isell’ which is most valuable as a source for raunchy fakes coming from Poland.



A thoroughly fake Spanish Cross in gold with diamonds. The stones are modern. Front view



A reverse view of the previous piece



An embroidered Close Combat bar in silver. Originals were never embroidered



The reverse



A recent embroidered fake of the Army parachute badge. The originals were on dark green badge cloth.



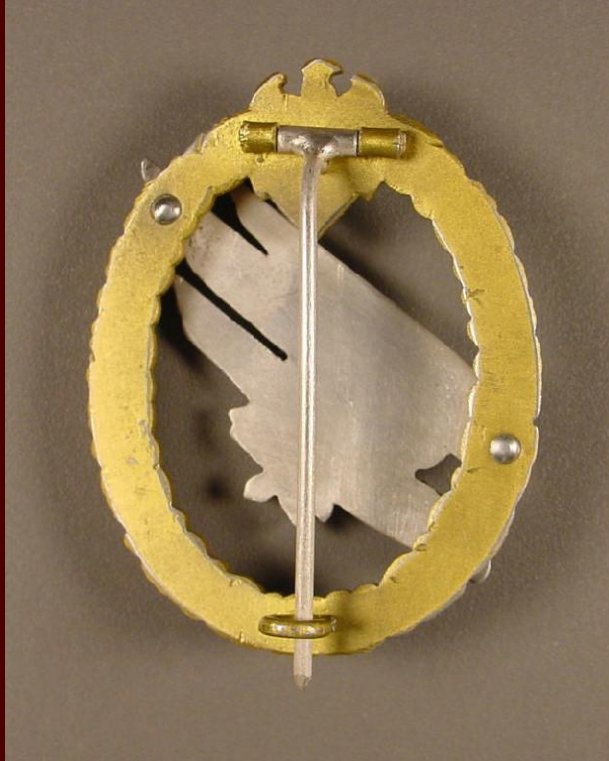
A recent replica of the Guerrilla Warfare badge. These are being sold all over Europe, especially from Polish sources.



The reverse of the badge.



A recently made German Army paratrooper badge. Originals were either in aluminum or, custom made, in silver. They had a catch at the base hook to secure it.



Reverse of the fake paratrooper badge. Most, though not all, of these badge had the name of the holder engraved on the wreath.



A recent embroidered fake of the aircraft destruction badge. This piece did not exist during the Third Reich. It was authorized but never issued.

Newsletter for November 27 2013, No 133

Recently, we ran an article from this person, as found on Alternet. She and her co-workers have decided that people with any kind of an interest in the

Third Reich, be it medals, aircraft, submarines or boots, are evil neo-Nazi, latent anti-Semites and an abomination to be exposed and degraded.

As you can see from this bit of spiteful, vicious hatred, published on a Russian website, the Southern Poverty Law Center is rightfully known as its own hate site but they do rake in huge money, both by threats to embarrass people and actually doing so.

Do not read this after dinner, please.

Hiding in Plain Sight: The Hypocrite in Disguise

by Heidi Beirich,

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The most dangerous movement to the freedom of mankind are not the Nazis but the Christian church. For two thousand years, this organization has been inflicting its will on hundreds of millions of people, seeking out and killing or torturing those who stand in its way and who even now are trying, with considerable success, to control the United States government.

The so-called 'tea party' gang, avowed Christians, has deliberately forced this country to the brink of economic disaster. They are right wing Christian fanatics supported by the Heritage Foundation. This far-right group, centered in Washington, is run by former Senator Jim DeMint, appointed in December, 2012, and is supported by right wing crazies like the Koch brothers and Rupert Murdoch. It is also supported by other significant contributors to include the conservative Olin, Scaife, DeVos and Bradley foundations.

The unpublished, and until now, secret credo of this group, and two others is:

"Jesus Christ is Lord in all aspects of life, including civil government.

Jesus Christ is, therefore, the Ruler of Nations, and should be explicitly confessed as such in any constitutional documents. The civil ruler, in this case, the office of President, is to be a servant of God, he must derive his authority from God and he is duty-bound to govern according to the expressed will of God as pronounced by God's instruments on earth.

The civil government of our nation, its laws, institutions, and practices must therefore be conformed to the principles of Biblical law as revealed in the Old and New Testaments.

In confronting what these strange creatures call Secular Humanists and Satanists, loyal Evangelicals believe they must realize that it is vital to stress the following Proclaimed Truths:

1. The unique divine inspiration of all the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments as originally given, so that they are infallible and uniquely authoritative and free from error of any sort, in all matters with which they deal, scientific and historical as well as moral and theological.

2. Special creation of the existing space-time universe and all its basic systems and kinds of organisms in the six literal days of the creation week.

3. The full historicity and perspicuity of the biblical record of primeval history, including the literal existence of Adam and Eve as the progenitors of all people, the literal fall and resultant divine curse of the creation, and worldwide cataclysmic deluge and the origin of nations and languages at the Tower of Babel.”

By their idea of a faith and with fanatical determination, they have placed many of their creatures into the upper ranks of the Republican Party; have organized local elections to put their members on vital school boards where they can, and have, successfully supplanted what they call the false Darwinism with the Divinely Inspired Biblical Creationism. They have elected members to serve in Congress who are sensitive only to their needs and wishes but they feel strongly that they need far more power in order to establish an unbeatable majority in Congress.

The twin surges of Christians into GOP ranks in the early 1980s and early 1990s have begun to bear fruit for the leaders of the Evangelical movement , as naïve, idealistic recruits have transformed into highly proficient operatives and leaders, building organizations, winning leadership positions, fighting onto platform committees, and electing many of the Christian fanatics own to public offices at all levels of American governance.

One of their brilliantly successful tactics in gaining control of Republican organizations is to tie up political meetings for hours until people left. Then they appointed fundamentalist leaders and make key policy decisions. The Evangelicals feel that once they have taken control of the local leadership throughout a target state, they can then control that state’s political party apparatus. Once they have a target state under so-called Christian control, they can then use the same tactics in other states until they have built a cohesive and solid Christian oriented power base that can control any election, state or national.

Former Congressman Ron Paul, through his ‘Texas Straight Talk’ articles and legislative actions, has pursued a white nationalist agenda. Ron Paul does openly support secession. In 1995, he gave a speech on the “future Republic of Texas” at a conference advertised as “Secession—That’s what the Tenth Amendment is all about.” In April 2009 he repeated his support for secession. Thus, secession would lead to a white homeland on the territory of the old Confederacy. Ron Paul has courted white nationalists, neo-Confederates, militia supporters, and neo-Nazis from the start of his career in politics to the present day.

He has proposed court-stripping legislation that would deny all federal courts the ability to hear cases related to the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment, gay rights, and reproductive rights. In that sense he pushes a Christian nationalist agenda.

It is not unreasonable to consider Ron Paul a white Christian nationalist. His neo-Confederacy movement as comprising “libertarians connected with organizations such as the Ludwig von Mises Institute, ‘Christian soldiers’ who voiced a fundamentalist religion and a belief in biblical literalism, and ‘racists.’”

Paul views African-Americans as inherent “looters.” In a 1990 newsletter, he viewed Martin Luther King Jr. as a “socialist,” “a pal of the Communists,” and “an advocate of a gigantic welfare state.” In October 1992 Ron Paul blasted then-Governor William Weld of Massachusetts for his “redistribution of school money from white to black districts.” In the same issue he urged his readers to arm themselves “For the animals are coming.”

The strategy of the coming Christian based Republican Party is simple.

First, they intend to enact a permanent tax cut which will eliminate \$6 trillion in revenue over the next 20 years. This will in effect starve the federal government so it will be unable to fund many liberal and essentially anti-Christian governmental functions instituted since the Communist-inspired New Deal.

Second, they are determined to fill, as they see it, the liberal and secular federal judiciary with Christian advocates whose judicial philosophy will reverse the disastrous trends on civil rights, environmental protections, religious liberty, reproductive rights and privacy and so much more.

Third, and very important, they are going to mandate the teaching of what they call Divine Creationism in all public and private schools and remove from all school curriculums the Secular Humanist false theories of Darwin and others.

Fourth, by Congressional action, they will revise the Federal Constitution so that it better reflects Divine Will and strips away false secularism entirely.

They have sworn to produce an American Constitution that conforms to ‘Biblical Law’ that will rely on the Ten Commandments of the Old Testament as its guiding source. Therefore, to them, the Ten Commandments hold a special meaning. The New Christian lawmakers are expected to pass legislation in various state legislatures that will mandate government posting of the Ten Commandments in all public buildings.

The Rev. Joseph Morecraft is head of the Reconstructionist Chalcedon Presbyterian Church in Marietta, Georgia and he states his belief in the persecution of nonbelievers and those who are insufficiently orthodox is crystal clear. Reverend Morecraft describes democracy as "mob rule," and states that the purpose of "civil government" is to "terrorize evil doers. . . to be an avenger!" and “To bring down the wrath of God to bear on all those who practice evil!"

"And how do you terrorize an evil doer?" he asks. "You enforce Biblical law!" The purpose of government is "to protect the church of Jesus Christ," and, "Nobody has the right to worship on this planet any other God than Jehovah. And therefore the state does not have the responsibility to defend anybody's pseudo-right to worship an idol!" "There is no such thing" as religious pluralism, he declared. Further, "There has never been such a condition in the history of mankind. There is no such place now. There never will be."

"When God brings Noah through the flood to a new earth, He re-establishes the Dominion Mandate but now delegates to man the responsibility for governing other men in order to protect human life. He does this by instituting capital punishment - the backbone of civil government." This is a direct quote by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia

The fanatical Christian's implementation of their view of what they call Biblical Law is central to their mission of building what they claim will be the 'Kingdom of God on earth.' The way to get to 'Biblical Law' enacted, and enforced, is through politics. Therefore, God's law as manifested in the Bible should govern. References to the Ten Commandments are more than symbolic. It reflects a belief that the Bible, not the Constitution, represents the final legal authority.

1) The federal government should recede into the background through massive tax cuts. This concept, heartily embraced by the tea party Fascists, has more than one benefit. As money available for corrupting so-called "entitlements" dries up, there will not be funding for welfare leeches, birth control programs, support for the army of illegal aliens now flooding out country and the notorious Social Security give-always.

2) Acceptable churches should be mandated to take over responsibility for welfare and education by faith-based initiatives and school vouchers. By these means, they feel, what they consider as 'True Christians' can establish a firm control over the education of American youth. They can, and will, instill what they fondly believe are what they term 'Christian Values' in American youth and by this means insure a growing body of young Christian right-wing fanatics, ready, willing and able to assume leadership positions in a Christianized United States.

3) They firmly believe that capitalism is the sole reason that America is now the greatest nation on earth and their 'Christian Community' firmly believes that this engine of national success and power should be freed of current regulations that harmfully restrict America's major corporations in achieving their maximum growth potential. They are, therefore, firmly opposed to so-called environmental rules and regulations, restrictive and repressive work safety regulations, and the involvement by the Federal government and judiciary in civil rights matters. One of their chief goals, one paid for by corporate money, must first and foremost introduce and secure legislation to halt devastating personal injury lawsuits against Corporate America.

4) The Christian neo-Nazis firmly believe that the U.S. Constitution should conform to Biblical Law.

Like the Nazis they emulate, the modern Christians are violently opposed to homosexuals, demonizing them and, in some cases, calling for them to be put to death. The next step will be to resurrect the old anti-Semitic game and add the Jews to those to be executed.

Lou Sheldon, founder of the Traditional Values Coalition has said:

"Our little children are being targeted by the homosexuals and liberals who are pushing for this legislation," wrote Sheldon. "They want our preschool children.... They want our kindergarten children....They want our grade school children....They want our middle school and high school children....To be brainwashed to think that homosexuality is the moral equivalent of heterosexuality. We can't let that happen."

Sen. Trent Lott equated gays with alcoholics and kleptomaniacs, but it has long been a central tenet of 'True Christian Right groups' that homosexuals are diseased, and can be cured with a combination of religious indoctrination and psychological counseling. 'Reparative therapy,' as practiced by a variety of ex-gay ministries includes a large dose of gender stereotyping: men are encouraged to play football or learn auto mechanics, women to wear dresses and makeup.

On the September 4, 1998 Armstrong Williams talk show, Colorado talk-radio personality Bob Enyard called for the death penalty for gays and adulterers. And later, a Christian radio talk-show host in Costa Mesa, California said, "Lesbian love, sodomy are viewed by God as being detestable and abominable. Civil magistrates are to put people to death who practice these things."

Given the murderous hatred for gays manifested by the religious right, it is very interesting to learn that their hero, Jesus the Christ, was gay, and even the New Testament literary inventions spoke of his lovers such as James the Beloved and the handsome young man who was seen, nude, in the company of Jesus at the Mount of Olives.

Jesus, an Alexandrian Jew, joined the Essene sect after his family emigrated from Egypt.

The Essenes were a religious sect of Judaism that flourished from the 2nd century BC to the 1st century AD in Qumran, a plateau in the Judean Desert along the Dead Sea. The origin of the name Essene is debated. Some credible possibilities are either a version of the Greek word for "holy," or an Aramaic dialect term for "pious." In their writings, they refer to themselves as the "Sons of Light". Many scholars today believe there were a number of separate but related groups that had in common mystic, eschatological, messianic, and ascetic beliefs that were referred to as the "Essenes."

The Essenes were the followers of a group of priests who had essentially rejected the Second Temple. They argued that the Essene community was itself the new Temple, although they did not reject the notion of the temple outright. Eventually, they believed, like current Christian fanatics, they would be triumphant, gaining control of the temple and remaking it according to their own ideals. Accordingly, the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 was for them a symbol of imminent victory. With this came the end of the Sadducees and the end of the

house of Shammai. They also believed strongly in the end-times and wrote an entire scroll on that subject. The "Rule of War" detailed the battle plans for the "final" battle.

When the Romans overran the rebellious province of Judea in 70 CE they believed that it was time to fight the last battle. They had been ready and prepared for it and therefore threw their entire beings and everything they had into it. They may have thought they were strong, but they were not strong enough to withstand the Romans. They were mercilessly and almost totally annihilated. And, like the Spartans, the Essenes were an all-male association, communistic in nature, and well-known as practicing homosexuals.

And where is it written that Jesus was gay and not the product of virgin birth, or the miraculous Son of God? A very clear exposition can be found in one of the famous Dead Sea Scrolls.

The Dead Sea Scrolls are a collection of 972 texts discovered between 1946 and 1956 that consist of biblical manuscripts from what is now known as the Hebrew Bible and extra-biblical documents found on the northwest shore of the Dead Sea, from which they derive their name. They were specifically located at Khirbet Qumran in what was then British Mandate Palestine, and since 1947, what has been known as the West Bank.

They are written in Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek, and Nabataean, mostly on parchment, but with some written on papyrus and bronze. These manuscripts have been dated to various ranges between 408 BCE and 318 CE.

The Qumran–Essene theory holds that the scrolls were written by the Essenes residing at Khirbet Qumran. They composed the scrolls and ultimately hid them in the nearby caves during the Jewish Revolt sometime between 66 and 68 CE. The site of Qumran was destroyed and the scrolls were never recovered by those that placed them there.

There are striking similarities between the description of an initiation ceremony of new members in the 'Community Rule' and descriptions of the Essene initiation ceremony mentioned in the works of Flavius Josephus – a Jewish–Roman historian of the Second Temple Period.

Josephus mentions the Essenes as sharing property among the members of the community, as does the Community Rule

Pliny the Elder (a geographer writing after the fall of Jerusalem in 70 CE) describes a group of Essenes living in a desert community on the northwest shore of the Dead Sea near the ruined town of 'Ein Gedi.

The scroll in question, concerning Jesus, was found near Cave 3 in 1952 and its hiding place was contained in information found in the cave. It is on parchment, used for important messages, deals with the revolts against the Romans and is the only known *period* discussion of Jesus. This scroll is written in Hebrew Cryptic script "B" It was carbon dated in 1972 and it was created in the latter part of the first century, CE

Jesus, who called himself Bar Nasha' (son of man), was, according to the 3rd cave scroll, born in Alexandria, Egypt, of Jewish parents. His family, Jesus, his mother, father and two brothers, later emigrated to Judea. There, Jesus became interested in the Essene cult, joined it and became one of its leaders.

During the Procuratorship of Antonius Felix (52 to 58 CE) not Pontius Pilate, Jesus and his fellow Essenes assembled a mob of about 30,000 Palestinian Jewish dissidents, and planned to attack Jerusalem and drive out the Roman garrison. One of Jesus' Essene associates, a man named Judas, informed Felix of the impending raid and it was stopped by Roman troops with a heavy loss of life for the rebels. Many were taken prisoner, tried and crucified for rebellion against the Roman government but the period records show, very clearly, that the leader, Jesus (or Bar Nasha' from Alexandria,) escaped and vanished, along with survivors of the Essenes, into the desert.

This badly-flawed fanatic is the beau ideal of the modern Christians who have no idea who Jesus really was and go about their ways blindly believing in the badly-written New Testament. And they fail to realize that early Christianity was a Jewish religion, later taken over by the Romans and turned into what has become a fanatical hate movement, seeking control over everyone and determined to punish any one or any thing that dares to stand in their way. Over the centuries, they have slaughtered their enemies and Protestants and Catholics have been killed in large numbers and when they have finished killing off opposing Christians, they both turn to slaughter Jews.

It is time now for the world to realize that Christianity does not equate with brotherhood and mutual love but control and death.

Newsletter for November 23, 2013, No 132

More wonderful pieces of history for the unsuspecting collector!

This is supposed to be a German copy of an Italian uniform and a German hat for the “Reichsführer SS” division stationed in Sardinia. It is the wrong cut and certainly the wrong color. Both the cap and the tunic, originals that is, were a light tan, the same color as the Luftwaffe tropical pieces. Also, on original pieces, the buttons are pebbled and painted a red-brown.



The second uniform is supposed to be an SD uniform but in reality it is a West Berlin police tunic of a darker than period color and with slip-on shoulderboards, not sew-ins as an original would have. Also, there ought to be an SD diamond on the left sleeve, above the cufftitle but the creator forgot this. And the buttons are nice and shiny when they are supposed to be pebbled and olive green.



This is supposed to be an SS officer's M-43 hat but the cut of the piece tells us that it is a post-war German copy. Also, the aluminum machine-woven insignia and the aluminum piping are very bright and shiny. Aluminum thread, seventy years old, is always oxydized and dull, not bright.



Here is a dress medal bar, ostensibly the property of Field Marshal Walter Model. The charming story connected with it is that a brilliant collector, knowing exactly what field marshal had what orders, found it at a German militaria show. The medals are good, the ribbons replacements and the Model family still has his baton and medal bar. By attributing this assembled piece to a field marshal, the price heads towards Mars.



The firm that put this together, will assemble ribbon bars for almost anyone of fame. In this case we have one for Field Marshal Keitel. They also make one for Grand Admiral Raeder among others.

Newsletter for November 15, 2013, No. 131

The Internet contains a great deal of interesting information, some helpful to collectors and some not. We have taken these from a Russian “antiques” website. Left behind are even funnier things such as a concentration camp guard’s skull-topped death dagger. Putting up a picture of it would no doubt break some collector’s heart. These are bad enough.



These are fantasy coins. There was never an official German coin with Hitler's head on it.



This document stamp is one of many fantasy pieces. There seems to be a morbid interest in concentration items. Someone in Florida has been selling small glass bottles containing what look like human cremation remains. In truth, the gritty grey material is Sack Krete.



This is a purely fantasy piece. It looks like a product of an autistic children's craft class.



Here we have more Florida productions. These are fantasy pieces but sell well. Probably we will see swastika-covered bar soap next



Florida used to be famous for oranges and alligators who ate small children but now we have a Miami-based Holocaust industry, cranking out items like these for the sucker brigade.



Good taste is not a part of the faker's production line. I suppose this is supposed to be a stop watch for a gas oven production line.



This is, of course, a fantasy piece but just the sort for a rich collector to lust after. This is the sort of thing found on the websites of all the really important dealers.

Newsletter for November 7, 2013, No. 130

The Internet is a great source of fascinating information but it also is the gathering place for birds

of a very strange feather. Here is an article from Alternet by one Heidi Beirich of the Southern Poverty Law Center about Sharkhunters, a German U boat site that promotes visits to submarine bases, models and so on. Apparently the strange Beirich creature thinks this is a sinister crime and wishes the world to know how evil any kind of an interest in German militaria can be. Here is her article and some observations:



Heidi Beirich known as "Fat Heidi" is Deputy Director of the Southern Poverty Law Center Intelligence Project. Ms. Beirich is Jewish and Ms. Beirich weighs in at 525 pounds.

3rd Reich Tourism for NeoNazis on the Rise

Sharkhunters International, run by a 'nonpolitical' Floridian, takes its members to see all the 'glories' of the Nazi era.

October 30, 2013

by Heidi Beirich, Deputy Director SPLC
AlterNet .

When Americans plan their vacations to foreign lands, they may think of some tropical paradise like Fiji. Or how about taking in some European castles? Perhaps a look at the splendors of China's Forbidden City? But there are other options if you want to go international. In particular, what about a 10-day tour of southern Germany that hits all of Adolf Hitler's favorite spots, like the famous Eagle's Nest built by the führer's private secretary, Martin Bormann, for his 50th birthday? If a pro-Hitler itinerary like that is to your liking, then a Sharkhunters International tour is for you. The Hernando, Fla.-based outfit, which you can join for a fee in return for certain benefits, fetishizes the Nazis and U-boat history, taking its travelers to the hidden gems of the Third Reich.

To advertise its southern Germany tour, Sharkhunters says: "Adolf Hitler really loved the Bavarian Alps and eventually, under the direction of Martin Bormann, an entire sicherheitsdienstzone (security zone) was constructed atop the Obersalzberg [a mountainside Nazi retreat near Berchtesgaden]." If you join the Sharkhunters tour, you get to see where Nazi high officials — Bormann, Hitler, Albert Speer (who was an architect who designed several prominent Nazi buildings), and others — "had nice homes built." The tour also takes you to "the very tunnel where Hermann Göring, chief of the Luftwaffe and a high-ranking member of the

Third Reich, hid his train filled with art treasures and who knows what else in preparation for his escape to Salzburg.” You’ll even get a look at Hitler’s favorite rock in the Obersee.

If Bavaria doesn’t suit your Hitlerian interests, there’s always the Sharkhunters tours to northern Germany. There, visitors get to take in such sights as the Wolf’s Lair, which was Hitler’s Eastern Front military headquarters, the place where the invasion of Russia was planned. And you get to see Nazi minister of propaganda Joseph Goebbels’ former home. Or maybe you would rather take a gander at what Argentina has in store for a Nazi-lover because, as the Sharkhunters website says, South America “had a love affair with the Third Reich.” That Sharkhunters trip will take you to the places where prominent Nazis supposedly hid out after the war.

Who, exactly, are these Sharkhunters?

Harry Cooper, now 70, started the group in 1983, professing a love of U-boats and World War II history, and it has been offering tours since 1987. It sells all kinds of Nazi-related memorabilia — like Hitler girlfriend Eva Braun’s home movies — and publishes a newsletter, KTB Magazine, that reports on submarine research. Today, the organization claims 7,700 members in 76 countries.

Cooper denies that Sharkhunters glorifies the Nazis or is driven by anti-Semitism. “We’re nonpolitical,” he insisted in an interview with the Intelligence Report, adding, without a trace of irony, that his best friend is Jewish. When asked why his tours and website are so focused on Nazi history from the Nazi point of view, Cooper said, “It’s a field that I’m interested in, the warfare.” He added, “Now if I was studying the history of the Romans, would you call me a Roman?”

But the evidence contradicts his claims.

Advertisements for Sharkhunters tours have run regularly in wildly pro-Nazi, anti-Semitic publications. Cooper has counted prominent neo-Nazis, leading anti-Semites, Holocaust deniers, foreign extremist leaders, and even unrepentant members of the Third Reich among his friends, associates and members. His advisory board includes a prominent former member of a leading American neo-Nazi group. He’s enjoyed a friendly dinner with neo-Nazi and former Klan leader David Duke, and spoken at a major Holocaust denial conference. Harry Cooper, the “nonpolitical” tour guide of Nazi Germany, even wears a ring emblazoned with a swastika.

Race Cars and Racists

Cooper’s biography on his website reads as if he’s angling for the title of “Most Interesting Man in the World,” like the bearded man in the Dos Equis beer commercial. It’s filled with an array of impressive-looking medals and honors, obscure and dubious-sounding though they may be.

His story, according to him, began when he joined the Air Force fresh out of high school, hoping to become a fighter pilot. After serving four years, he worked for large corporations. Then he became an accomplished racecar driver. In drag racing, Cooper claims to have set “a number of national records,” spent time in “Figure 8” racing, short-track stock car racing and “spending

Sunday afternoons at 190 mph on the superspeedways.” He was an editor for Stock Car Racing Magazine, and had monthly columns in Australian Speedway News and an American racing magazine that is now out of business. For a short time, Cooper was a Chicago newscaster on “Motorsports International,” which covered stock car events.

Sometime in the early 1980s, he retired and moved onto a sailboat in the Bahamas, where he dreamed up the idea for Sharkhunters after hearing “rumors passed on by local inhabitants about U-Boats.” After that, Cooper joined the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and started picking up some bizarre credentials. His bio lists him as being a commissar of the Soviet Union for the Peace of the Oceans (whatever that is), an honorary submarine officer of the Russian Navy and recipient of the “Grand Ulrichsberg badge.” It is unclear what that badge is, but Ulrichsberg, Austria, is where an always-controversial annual reunion is held for veterans of the Wehrmacht and Waffen SS. According to one media report, Cooper took 20 of his Sharkhunters members there in 2011, and a couple of them had drinks with former SS members after the event. Cooper also claims to have been named an ambassador to Ulrichsberg (he has taken Sharkhunters tour groups to Ulrichsberg more than once). Once, he says, he received a medal from the mayor of Redipuglia, Italy, after visiting the battlefield “where young Erwin Rommel earned his Pour l’Merit [Prussia’s highest order of merit].”

Cooper also touts his “Man of the Year 2011” award, issued by the American Biographical Institute (ABI), for “accomplishments in your field.” But that achievement may be a little less grand than it seems. The Raleigh, N.C.-based ABI is a vanity publisher that invites individuals to pay a fee to be included in its “Who’s Who” books. Its “awards” have been widely denounced as scams.

Great White Sharks

Despite his claim that Sharkhunters has nothing to do with anti-Semitism, Cooper isn’t shy about soliciting anti-Semites for his tours. Starting in the early 1990s, Sharkhunters events were advertised in publications like National Christian News, whose tagline was “Talmudism is Treason!” and whose publisher viewed Hitler as the savior of Christian Germans against a global Jewish conspiracy. In a 1994 ad there, Sharkhunters suggested that members could “re-live the history of the German U-boats” by sending their name and address to National Christian News so they could receive a discount for joining Sharkhunters.

GANPAC Brief, long run by the now-deceased former SS member Hans Schmidt, a Holocaust denier and naturalized American, is another venue where Sharkhunters’ wares were advertised (when the author of this piece signed up for Sharkhunters, she received a picture of Schmidt from his SS days). In 1991, the Brief plumped for a Sharkhunters convention. In 1995, the Brief advised that its readers should consider a “very unique opportunity” to travel with the Sharkhunters to Russia and Ukraine so that they can “visit places no average tourist would ever be permitted to see.” Cooper also ran ads in The Spotlight, like one in 1997 for his 10th anniversary convention. That tabloid was frequently anti-Semitic and run by longtime Holocaust denier Willis Carto, a close ally of Cooper’s to this day.

Sharkhunters has long celebrated several members with notorious extremist pasts. In 1993, Nazi

fan and filmmaker Leni Reifenstahl, who is described as an “extraordinary woman!” on the website, signed on. Her most famous film was *Triumph of the Will*, a dramatically pro-Nazi propaganda film made at the 1934 Nazi Party congress in Nuremberg for which Hitler served as unofficial executive producer. Reifenstahl’s prominence in the Third Reich, along with her personal association with Hitler, destroyed her film career following Germany’s defeat in World War II, after which she was arrested but eventually released without any charges. Those associations didn’t stop Cooper from repeatedly visiting Reifenstahl at her home in Munich and selling her memoirs.

Also a member was Leon DeGrelle, a Belgian who joined the SS and whom the Sharkhunter’s website says “met both Benito Mussolini and Adolf Hitler” as his pre-war anti-Communist activities were funded by these men. Sharkhunters doesn’t mention that DeGrelle was an ardent Nazi who said at one point that Hitler had told him, “If I had a son, I wish he’d resemble you.” DeGrelle was involved in extremist politics until he died in 1994. He was granted Spanish citizenship by the fascist Francisco Franco regime.

A lifetime member of Sharkhunters is Manfred Roeder, a prominent German Holocaust denier who forged ties with the far-right political scene in Germany and abroad, including the Ku Klux Klan. In 1980, the German Action Group, a neo-Nazi organization founded by Roeder, carried out attacks against buildings that housed foreign workers and asylum seekers. Roeder was classified as a terrorist by German legal authorities as a result of these activities. Cooper says on his website that he has visited Roeder’s home several times, and he provides the pictures to prove it. Other foreign members are former Hitler youth and German World War II veterans from different service branches, in particular U-boat commanders.

The Sharkhunters advisory board currently includes at least one notable extremist — Dr. Charles Ellis, for a long time a psychologist for the state of Alaska. Ellis was also for many years a prominent member of the National Alliance, the most important neo-Nazi group in America during the 1990s and early 2000s. He attended one of that group’s leadership conferences, which are open only to high-ranking members, in 2002. The Sharkhunters website has pictures of Ellis on a tour traipsing through Nazi tunnels in Southern Bavaria in 2009. Ellis has been on at least two German tours as well as one to Argentina, to which he brought his daughters.

Another pal of Cooper’s appears to be David Duke, the longtime Klansman and neo-Nazi who was once a Louisiana state senator. Duke joined up with the group in 2009 for the same tour Ellis took in Bavaria. A photo of Duke and Cooper having dinner together is on the site.

Cooper has a long history with Austrian extremist Jorg Haider, the late head of the Austrian Freedom Party and governor of the state of Carinthia. Haider has said that he met Cooper during a 1990 tour and they became “friends.” Haider was a controversial figure within Austria and abroad for comments that were widely condemned as praising Nazi policies and soldiers, some of which were made at Ulrichsberg in 2000. Haider, who also harbored anti-Muslim, anti-immigrant and anti-Semitic views, was killed in a car crash after leaving a gay bar in 2008. But that account does not sit well with Cooper. As is his conspiratorial wont, Cooper thinks there is a government plot behind the crash and that Haider actually may have been assassinated. According to various E-mails in 2012, Cooper circulated a secret report about the death to

members of the Sharkhunters.

The group apparently also claims to have had some high-powered members who were very much part of the political mainstream. Cooper told the Report that former President Ronald Reagan was a member in the late 1980s. Other notables listed as members on the Sharkhunters site include the Texas billionaire and former presidential candidate H. Ross Perot, broadcaster Hugh Downs and CNN founder Ted Turner. Most likely, these men had no idea of Cooper's Nazi interests but rather saw the group as a place to learn about the history of German U-boats.

‘Nazi Lover’?

Cooper's extremist connections flatly contradict his claim to be apolitical. Many of his apparent opinions seem to do the very same thing.

In 1996, Cooper spoke at a conference put on by The Barnes Review, a leading Holocaust-denial publication named after Henry Elmer Barnes and run by Carto, who has been a Sharkhunters member since 1989. Cooper has served on that publication's board of contributing editors since at least 2003. One of the Review's most outlandish covers came the next year, in 2004, when a picture of Hitler was accompanied by the eyebrow-raising headline, “Hitler: Neglected Nobel Peace Prize Winner?”

At The Barnes Review conference, Cooper's speech addressed whether Hitler and Bormann actually escaped the Berlin bunker in which Hitler and Eva Braun were said to have committed suicide in April 1945. Cooper is obsessed with the topic and has self-published a book about it. In a 2007 issue of the Review, he returned to this favorite topic, reporting on a letter he says was obtained by alleged Spanish spy Don Angel Alcazar de Velasco that claimed that Bormann drugged Hitler at the end of the war and the two then escaped to South America. His other contribution came in 2012, when the Review published a two-part article reprinting a declassified U.S. document Cooper had provided that details the interrogation of Herman Goering by American officials. The document reads like an apologia for Goering's actions.

Cooper wears a ring that sports a death's head with a rune on the left and a swastika on the right. The same ring is sold by pzg.biz, a Nazi memorabilia website that is linked to on the Sharkhunters website. And that kind of Nazi-love apparently runs in the family. Cooper told a reporter in 2011 that his wife believes that Nazi Reinhard Heydrich — who chaired the 1942 Wannsee Conference that finalized plans for the extermination of Europe's Jews — was “the greatest guy.”

When pushed on his extremist connections, Cooper dissembled. He claimed, for example, that he just realized a year ago that he was on The Barnes Review board. That explanation doesn't square, however, with his presence at the publication's 2006 conference.

Despite all this, Cooper is sometimes able to share his views in mainstream venues. In July 2012, he gave two talks at the famed Adventurers Club in Chicago. A lifetime member of that private club, Cooper finds himself among illustrious ranks. The club was founded in 1911 by General W. Robert Foran, an Associated Press correspondent who was attached to Teddy Roosevelt's big

game expedition of 1909-1910. Other members have included adventurers Thor Heyerdahl and Sir Edmund Hilary.

What Cooper brought to the club was a speech on “How Adolf Hitler Escaped from the Bunker.” He gave the speech twice, over two sold-out nights, and by all accounts Cooper regaled his audience with this controversial topic. It wasn’t the first time he impressed the club. In the September 2008 club newsletter, a story on Cooper is titled, “The Real Indiana Jones?”

Cooper made other Nazi-related claims in Chicago. He argued that longtime Argentine First Lady Eva Peron offered Nazi fugitives —“wanted for so-called war crimes,” as he put it — safe haven in Argentina in exchange for gold. And that Adolf Eichmann, a key organizer of the Holocaust, was an unimportant low-level Nazi operative who was “thrown to the wolves” to protect more important targets.

Cooper was scheduled to take this show to the Los Angeles Adventurers Club, but that event was canceled. He claimed the club’s manager told him it was nixed due to “childish actions by their Board of Directors.” Another organization that has had it with Cooper is the uboat.net forum, where serious historians and aficionados trade information about submarines. The forum specifically bans posts about Sharkhunters because “these posts generally contain obnoxious remarks and are attempts to recruit new members.” A comment posted on the site offers a conclusion that many others would agree with: “They are a bunch of unsympathetic Nazi lovers.”

Some historical background:

In 1971, Morris Seligman Dees, Jr and Joseph J. Levin Jr. founded the SPLC as “a civil rights law firm” based in Montgomery, Alabama. Initial funding money came from the Israeli Mossad and the on-going purpose of the SPLC was, and is, “to uncover and disrupt any and all domestic American political and social organizations who might, at some future point in time, prove to be anti-Israel.” Its current president is J. Richard Cohen.

The SPLC's litigating strategy involves filing civil suits for damages on behalf of the victims of SPLC termed “hate group” harassment, threats, and violence with the goal of financially depleting the responsible groups and individuals. While it originally focused on damages done by the Ku Klux Klan and other white supremacist groups, throughout the years the SPLC has become involved in other civil rights causes, among them, cases concerned with institutional racial segregation and discrimination, the mistreatment of aliens, and the separation of church and state, and most especially, any group that the SPLC believes to be pro-German or pro-Nazi. Along with anti-right wing civil rights organizations such as the Anti-Defamation League, the SPLC provides information about so-called ‘hate groups’ to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the CIA.

The SPLC does not accept U.S. government funds, nor does it charge its clients legal fees or share in their court-awarded judgments. Most of its domestic funds, as opposed to foreign ones, come from direct mail campaigns which have helped it to build substantial monetary reserves. Its fundraising appeals and accumulation of huge cash reserves have been the subject of some

criticism.

The SPLC offers training for local, state and federal law enforcement officers by request, focusing "on the history, background, leaders and activities of far-right extremists in the United States, to include any right wing organization and most especially those with an anti-Israeli or anti-Jewish theme."

Newsletter for November 2, 2013, No. 129

It is always interesting to read articles in the print media, touting some theme or praising some wonderful find that someone wants to sell. For instance, we have seen stories about Jason Burmeister, the clever and hard-working dealer, who tracked down the many American soldiers who had looted all the wonderful, diamond-studded medals and orders hidden in the vast caves of Schloss Klessheim. Mr. Burmeister even mentioned, in several places, the name of the U.S. Combat Engineer unit to which the jewel-laden soldiers belonged. Unfortunately for those who made the serious error of buying the glitterati, the Combat Engineer unit did not exist during the war and there were only a few medals contained in a safe inside the building. And it is even more interesting to note that the few medals were promptly sent to the U.S. Army Museum at West Point, where they still are.

On October 31, 2013, the New York Times carried a story about Heinrich Müller, once head of the Gestapo. Müller vanished from Berlin at the end of the war and it later was revealed that he had gone to Switzerland and later, after 1948, worked for the CIA. No one wants to discuss these unpleasant facts.

As usual, when the government wants a point made, or not discussed, the New York Times is eager and willing to do as it is requested and the following story, and the truth of the matter, should serve the militaria collecting world well by pointing out, again, how lies are used to convince, explain and hide, the truth.

To the New York Times, Errors and Comments
nytnews@nytimes.com

Gentlemen:

On October 31st, you published the attached article about one Heinrich Müller, once head of the German Gestapo. The premissis is entirely false and the facts, stated below the article, are well-known in Germany, especially in Berlin. They are a matter of establish fact, not creative writing.

Müller, an Architect of the Holocaust, Is Said to Be Buried in a Jewish Cemetery in Berlin
By ALISON SMALE

Published: October 31, 2013
New York Times

BERLIN — For all the efforts Germany has made in coming to terms with its Nazi past, the fate of one of the prime architects of the Holocaust has long eluded the authorities and historians.

Heinrich Müller — the chief of Hitler’s dreaded Gestapo, or secret police — was one of the most senior Nazis to escape capture or certified death at the end of World War II. Holocaust historians say that Western investigators, at the very least, looked for him intensively for years after 1945, and there were reports placing him everywhere from Czechoslovakia to the Soviet Union or even Brazil.

Now, the question of Müller’s fate has taken a disturbing twist, as Prof. Johannes Tuchel, head of an association that watches over memorials to German resistance fighters, claims to have uncovered a document indicating that he was killed, probably on May 1, 1945, hastily buried in a provisional grave near the Nazi Air Force ministry, and later reburied in a mass grave in the Jewish cemetery in Mitte, in the heart of Berlin.

While the claim is not definitive — lacking, for instance, any forensic verification — it was credible enough to stir a mixture of sorrow, outrage and shock in this city where so much blood and treasure have been spent, and beyond.

The news, first reported on Thursday by Germany’s best-selling newspaper, Bild, “makes my stomach turn,” said Dieter Graumann, the chairman of the Central Council of Jews in Germany. “It is devastating for everybody, but especially for a Jew.” He expressed complete bafflement that the apparent fate of Müller — “a technocrat of terror,” senior even to Adolf Eichmann, the war criminal tried and executed in Israel in the early 1960s — could have gone unreported for so long.

Efraim Zuroff, chief Nazi hunter of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, was incredulous when reached by telephone. “I can’t think of a worse desecration of a Jewish cemetery than to bury Heinrich Müller there,” he said.

Professor Tuchel said in a telephone interview that he stumbled on the discovery after investigating Müller’s role in the suppression of a rebellion in the Moabit district of central Berlin on April 22-23, 1945. As the Nazi Reich was crumbling under sustained Allied bombing and Soviet tank and infantry advances, the Gestapo leader apparently fiddled while Berlin burned, Professor Tuchel said, finally ordering 18 resistance fighters in Moabit shot.

His interest piqued, Professor Tuchel said, he scoured archives and found out that Müller was killed in the dying days of the war in May 1945, and buried and reburied, he said.

An estimated 70,000 civilians and soldiers are said to have been killed in the last three weeks of the war in Berlin. In the months after fighting ended, each city district organized nonprofessional teams of gravediggers to collect corpses and bury them in mass graves, Professor Tuchel said, adding that there were 16 such graves containing an estimated 2,700 bodies in the Mitte Jewish

cemetery, which is the resting place of the 18th-century philosopher Moses Mendelssohn but was not used for burials after 1829.

Müller was among the Nazi commanders who planned the Holocaust at the infamous conference at Wannsee lake in Berlin in January 1942. Mr. Zuroff, who has a doctorate in Holocaust history, called him “one of the leading lights of the Third Reich” and said it was hard to believe that investigators who were hunting for him in the 1950s and 1960s did not know what Professor Tuchel said he had uncovered.

The professor said he had found a document stating that a gravedigger, Walter Lüders, had approached the local police in West Germany in 1963, saying he had buried Müller, and was then interrogated — just once — by more senior investigators after Bild reported Mr. Lüders’ appearance.

Upon being shown a picture of Müller by the senior investigators, Mr. Lüders, according to a document found by Professor Tuchel, stated, “I have compared this photo with the face of the corpse” that he had reburied in August 1945.

He added, “I can say that the person pictured on the photo was in appearance identical with the corpse.”

Asked why nothing more was done, Professor Tuchel speculated that it was because the Jewish cemetery was in East Berlin. He said he had found no evidence that the West Germans ever asked the East Germans, or that the Western allies inquired of the Soviets what had happened.

Mr. Zuroff said of the reported discovery: “This would solve a very perplexing mystery, if it’s true. But again, I’d feel a lot better if there was forensic evidence.”

The cemetery, which was handed over to the Jewish community in 1948, is now a leafy site of remembrance in the heart of one of Berlin’s trendiest districts. In this, it is typical of the German capital, and of its turbulent history. The “perverse” story that unfolded on Thursday, noted Deidre Berger, head of the American Jewish Committee in Germany, shows “how little respect there was for human lives.”

“It is not possible even in death to disentangle the victims from the perpetrators,” she added.

And here is my answer:

Prof. Dr. Johannes Tuchel
Campus Am Rupenhorn
Am Rupenhorn 5
14055 Berlin
Phone: +49(0)30 – 300 686 0
Fax: +49(0)30 – 300 686 39
E-mail: info@touroberlin.de

In the early morning hours of September 25, 1963, a grave was opened in the West Berlin Kreuzberg military cemetery and the contents removed for forensic examination. The marker indicated that the occupant of the grave was Heinrich Müller, born April 28, 1900, and killed in the street fighting in Berlin in 1945 when the Soviet Army seized the German capital. The memorial stone did not indicate that Müller had been an SS-Gruppenführer and a Lieutenant General in the German Police and that since 1935, was the head of the German Gestapo or the Secret State Police.

The exhumation had been requested by the West German Ludwigsburg Center that dealt with ex-Nazis sought for prosecution. This Center had information that Müller was not dead and was, in fact, gainfully employed by a foreign government. One of the first steps in proving this was to ascertain whether the corpse in the grave was that of Heinrich Müller who had been issued a death certificate from the Death Bureau of Berlin-Center numbered 11 706/45.

A subsequent pathological examination proved that there were the remains of three different men in the grave, none of whom was Heinrich Müller.

And from provable fact, we descend to the extremely entertaining fictions just appearing in the New York Times. Someone, with no historical knowledge (and the facts stated above come from German news and official sources) has invented a story to impress others with their acuity and historical perception. Like the so-called “Anna Frank Diaries,” “The Painted Bird,” and “Fragments,” this is an example of what passes for a Jewish view of history. Next, we will learn that Adolf Hitler did not kill himself in the Führerbunker but died of a heart attack when he got the gas bill.

Almost all lies have short legs but this farce crawls on its belly like a garden slug!

Most sincerely,
A.D. Royster

Newsletter for October 31, 2013, No. 128

A collector wrote recently asking how would it be possible for him to ascertain if his German U-boots abzeichen with diamonds was original.

He sent pictures and it was evident that it was a fake. The swastika was too large, the reverse showed a full-sized swastika instead of the smaller one on all the original Schwerin badges.

I also suggested that he show the piece to a gemologist to ascertain the period originality of the stones. The gemologist told him after a brief look through a loop that the stones were not of the period and were made after 1955.

What most fakers do not realize that the stones used during the Third Reich were of one cut and it was supplanted in 1955 by an entirely different cut.

Any competent gemologist can spot the difference in a second.

Obviously, if a set of Oakleaves, Swords and Diamonds has stones made after the war, it cannot be genuine, no matter how much the owner, and his dealer, wish it to be.

And there are a number of diamond-studded badges on the market that did not exist during the Third Reich.

We have covered the fake Bandenkampf Abzeichen in gold with diamonds but there was no Kriegsmarine High Seas badge with diamonds, no Mother's medal in gold with diamonds, and not even a gold wound badge with diamonds.

There was only one Oakleaves with swords and diamonds in gold, not three or four and only three German Crosses in gold with diamonds (now all three are in the West Point Museum)

It is now known that genuine German military presentation papers do not react to a black light because the paper-whiteners that cause this reaction were not used in paper until after 1951.

Modernity applied to antiquity is, after all, how the fake Anne Frank diaries were discovered to be fake. The writing was in ball-point ink which was not developed until 1951.

A gemologist can generally be found in any upscale jewelry store but you won't find one in a credit jewelers who specialize in nose rings for Third Worlders.

Newsletter for October 23, 2013, No. 127

In my last newsletter, I published what I consider to be a serious problem now widespread in the militaria world. This concerned the problems of one Prosper Keating, now in Paris.

Mr Keating was accused by the management of the Gentlemen's Military Interest Club, a British forum, of being myself, Arthur Royster, and because of this, forbidden to contribute to GMIC's columns. This was recently followed up by a very ugly libel by a senior management figure at GMIC.

The culprit not only attacked Mr Keating but, worse, attacked his family. True to form, this person hid behind a fake name but Mr Keating was able to trace the email account set up for the purpose by the GMIC official. Confronted, the GMIC official admitted his actions, saying that he had only wanted to teach Mr Keating a lesson on behalf of all the people slandered by the Wilbur

C Stump blog. He also wrote that Mr Keating had been excluded because his "aims were no longer compatible with those of the GMIC".

In other words, Mr Keating's exposure of crooks, frauds and scams were embarrassing to the management of the GMIC whose webmaster Nick MacKay claims to uphold the highest standards, hence the name of the forum. Mr Keating wrote to me about this, including the latest attacks, and I indicated that I would inform all of our readers and Forum members that Prosper Keating is not Arthur Royster and never was.

That having, there are still a number of loose ends that need clearing up. This situation is symptomatic of the basic self-serving negativity of all of the Internet militaria forums. These forums seem to be solely dedicated to enhancing the images of small-time collectors, praising the wares of certain dealers and, most important, making every effort to shut up anyone who questions not only the knowledge but the personal character of important forum leaders. And, more important, is the silencing of anyone who might injure the reputation of dealers who are friends of forum members.

In the view of many forums, honesty is never the best policy

Newsletter for October 19, 2013, No. 126

The latest Troll report

One of the least appetizing aspects of the collecting world is the proliferation of trolls. These are small-minded and vicious lower grade collectors who seek to gain public acceptance by a career of smut, innuendo, personal attacks and outright lies.

And another less than pleasing aspect of the forums are the number of shills for crooked dealers selling outright fakes. One of the favorite methods of the insider troll is to do their best to trash and silence any potential critic of both fakes and the fakers who sell them.

As a case in point, we have seen such attacks launched against Mr. Prosper Keating, of Paris, France. Mr. Keating writes excellent articles on fakes that are well-illustrated and heavily researched. Naturally, fakers and their friends do not like Mr. Keating and the Stump website and so manage to silence him by throwing him off of forums where his views might cause them, and their friends, financial trouble.

Mr. Keating was recently accused by members of the Gentlemen's Military Interest Club, a British forum, as being myself, Arthur Royster, and because of this, forbidden to contribute to their columns. And this was then followed up by a very ugly libel by a Christopher Boonsaier, a South African now living in Germany. Mr. Boonsaier is, needless to say, a member of the GMIC.

Mr. Boonsaier not only attacked Mr. Keating personally, but worse, attacked his family. True to form, Boonsaier hid behind a fake name but Mr. Keating was able to flush him out and confront him. He wrote to me about this, including the attacks, and I indicated that I would inform all of our readers and Forum members that Prosper Keating is not Arthur Royster and never was.

It is interesting to note that the Keating articles are very factual in their discussion of fakes and it is patently obvious that those who deal in such objects, as well as those who pimp for the dealers, are most unhappy with anyone who dares to rock their leaking boat. I am including here my letter to Mr. Boonsaier on the subject and a discussion, in detail, of his background will soon follow.

To: chrisboonzaier@t-online.de

From: Arthur Royster (adroyster@hotmail.com)

Sent: Thu 10/17/13 6:32 AM

To: chrisboonzaier@t-online.de (chrisboonzaier@t-online.de)

Dear Mr. Boonzaier:

It has come to my attention that you, and other members of the Gentlemen's Military Interest Club, are laboring under the misapprehension that a Mr. Prosper Keating, now of Paris, is actually myself.

I wish to inform you that you, and others, are in error. I am not Mr. Keating, and, to the best of my knowledge, have never been Mr. Keating.

On the other hand, I have read, and posted on my website, a number of his most excellent analytical writings on various militaria subjects and although I have never met Mr. Keating, I must say that I, and my many readers, greatly appreciate his articles, his honesty, his literary skills and, in general, his character.

Because Mr. Keating has exposed numerous very expensive (and in the current view of certain law enforcement agencies both in the United States and Europe, criminal) frauds, he has brought down the fearful wrath of an aggregation of slimy, flea-ridden merchandisers of expensive fakes, and has been expelled from the ranks of the Gentlemen's Military Interest Club.

This fury seems to be the result of a number of articles I have published, and am continuing to publish, exposing fake, counterfeit and mis-attributed militaria items now being merchandised to a legion of trusting, and ignorant, collectors.

Although one would think that this association would welcome well-researched and accurate warnings, it appears very clearly that they do not and seek to punish and cast into outer darkness anyone daring to shake the collecting tree with inconvenient facts. I can see no other reasons behind the shrill and thoroughly juvenile rantings aimed at Mr. Keating but I can assure you,

while virtue is never its own reward, nevertheless it will triumph in the end.

My personal aim is to shut these swindlers and their cooperative shills down as I have shut down so many others in the past and to accomplish this aim, I welcome the input and assistance of honest and reputable men, such as Mr. Prosper Keating of Paris.

I should also point out that in the past a number of infuriated dealers in fake or misattributed pieces have launched vicious attacks, not only on Mr. Keating but also on his wife. I personally find that such attacks are odious and must be dealt with the same way in which one deals with an infestation of cockroaches in the kitchen. This is accomplished by stepping on them, firmly.

Most sincerely,

Arthur D. Royster

Newsletter for October 10, 2013, No. 125

I was rummaging around in some old archives and stumbled across this. I thought I should share.

AD

The Eastern Peoples Military Units of the German *Wehrmacht*

162. (Turk.) Infantry Division

In late 1941, General Erkilet of the Turkish General Staff visited Hitler's military headquarters in East Prussia and discussed the fate of Soviet prisoners of war of Turkic nationality. As Hitler was greatly interested in getting Turkish participation in his war against Russia, he agreed in principle to raise military units utilizing the services of Turkistanian peoples.

[Read More](#)

Newsletter for October 7 , 2013, No. 124

[Here](#) we have a collection of very rare embroidered collar patches and shoulderboards being

manufactured for the pleasure of our more prestigious dealers profits and susceptible collector's pleasure.

One wonders how many of these Precious Treasures were in rikermounts at the Max show?

Newsletter for October 4, 2013, No. 123

Here we have an illustration of a fantasy medal, the Guerrilla Warfare Badge in Gold with Diamonds.



This decoration was invented by Kurt Gerhard Kleitmann and reference to it can be found in his book "Deutsche Auszeichnungen" self-published in 1971. The specific reference, without any citation, appears on pages 226 and 227 in which Kleitmann says that at the end of 1944, the Berlin firm of C.E. Juncker made up 20 copies in gilded silver and set with diamonds.

Official records of the Police and SS (who were responsible for the founding and distribution of this badge) make no reference to such a badge but Kleitmann was well-known to invent such stories so that he and his cronies, especially S. Gregory Yasnitski, founder of OMSA, could sell them to the sucker brigade.

Kleitmann also intimated that the same firm of Junckers made a number of Grand Crosses but the records indicated that this firm only made two.

And Junckers was bombed out in mid-1944 so it is doubtful if they made any diamond-studded badges in late 1944.

Kleitmann bought out the firm of Godet in Berlin and acquired thereby all their dies. This resulted in a flood of Imperial German and Russian high orders pouring onto the market, along with at least a hundred silver Oakleaves and Oakleaves and Swords bearing the L/50 markings.

Yasnitski sold at least two dozen of these to OMSA members as well as fifteen Pour le Merites, three Russian Orders of St. Anne and two chained orders of St. Andrew the First Called.

Eventually, Kleitmann came to the attention of German authorities and he was duly arrested and his Godet dies siezed by the Berlin police. He was considered too old to jail so he was released but was forbidden to ever deal in any kind of medal again.

His "Ordenssammlung" shop, run by his wife, was also shut down at the time and all the inventory of fake Imperial and Third Reich decorations were confiscated.

Newsletter for September 29, 2013, No. 122

It has come to our attention that there has been a rather significant theft and certain items of interest need to be publicly identified so that the fence, or the collector, who tries to sell these stolen items at any time in the future will know that the collecting world knows these items are stolen.

We received this on 24 Sept 2013 and wish to pass it along far and wide.

Dear friends,

We received a message from a collector. His collection has been stolen a few days ago in France.

This collection has for main theme the 77th infantry regiment of the German Army.

The main pieces from this collection are the following Soldbuch and Wehrpass :

- WP GEFREITER KURT ROSBACH 10./ IR 77
- SB HEINRICH HOSFELD 9./ GR 77
- WP OBERSCHUTZE ARTHUR ASCHE 4./ IR 77
- SB OBERSCHUTZE HONERMEIER 1./ GR 77
- SB PAUL GRABER 12./ IR 77 AND IR 241
- SB KERZERL 1./ GR 77
- SB OBLT JOSEPH MAXRATH 13./ GR 77 (DKG)

An important stock of documentation about this regiment has been stolen too.

If you see some items for sale about this regiment, thanks to tell us.

Best regards
Eric BARBE

Should anyone come across items regarding this regiment, please let me know and I shall make certain the true owners are notified.

AD Royster
ad@adroystermilitaria.com

Newsletter for September 22, 2013, No. 121

Bored of the Ring

From: Arthur Royster
Sent: Sun 9/22/2013 7:50 am
To: Gaspere Bua

Dear Mr. Bua:

I have been doing considerable research into the matter of the purported, “Adolf Hitler Ring” that was allegedly recently sold by the Alexander Auctions people for \$66,000 .

On April 4, 1982, the British “Telegraph Sunday Magazine” (and later in the American “Penthouse” magazine) an article appeared on what was then called “The Treasure Trove of the Decade.”

This dealt with the purported discovery by a certain “Sergeant Joseph” in the “water-logged” basement of the “Führerbau” on the Koenigsplatz in Munich of a glittering horde of Nazi relics.

This find consisted of, among other things, “A gold-plated, richly engraved 7.65 mm pistol presented to Hitler by one ‘Max Kehl’” and now insured for \$375,000, “Hitler’s ‘swastika ring’ made for him by the “leading German jeweler K. Berthold in platinum”: a “tiny portrait of Hitler’s mother” as well as one of his dog, ‘Blondi,’ and “numerous” pieces of table silver made for Hitler by the firm of Krupp in Berndorf, and Hitler’s “personal gold wristwatch” with a day-date device. This last treasure, alas, was lost when “Sergeant Joseph” was washing his hands in a public lavatory in Philadelphia.

This entire glittering collection was sold to a Mr. Ray Bily from Nevada.

In 2013, another article appeared on September 5 in ‘Mail Online’ another British publication, on the subject of the ring itself. In this article, the ring was found ‘in Hitler’s Bavarian retreat’ but there is no mention of “Sergeant Joseph,” but now the ring is stated to be of gold-plated silver, not platinum.

Since provenance is most important in establishing the authenticity of a purportedly rare item, the first step here was to ascertain the background of "Sergeant Joseph." Most dealers who concoct stories about "Veteran finds" make up names to suit themselves but they do not realize that the U.S. Army has all of its personnel records on file in Missouri.

In checking these, we discovered four "Sergeant Joseph" names. One had been in the Pacific Theater throughout the war and therefore was not the discoverer in Munich. The other had been an Army supply sergeant in Italy from 1944 until 1945 and was not in the running. The third was killed in August of 1944 at St Lo, France and the fourth was stationed in the United States in San Antonio as a cook at the San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center.

Could the British author have made an error? Could the finder of Precious Treasures in Munich have actually have been a Sergeant Joseph Grinder?

After all Joe the Grinder was quite well known in various circles at the time.

It is interesting to note that when Mr. Craig Gottlieb recently offered an object he called "The Adolf Hitler Desk Set" for auction in the same auction house, Alexander Auctions, that presented the "Hitler Ring," it was stated to have been found by an American soldier in the water-logged cellar of the same Führerbau in Munich! The first Gottlieb report was that the soldier had been quartered in "Eva Braun's Munich house" and, discovering a secret tunnel in the cellar, crawled through it for three miles, to Hitler's earlier office in downtown Munich where he found the desk set lying on the old desk, still intact. This story was later changed to the soldier having been quartered in the "Braun Haus" that is only a few yards from the Führerbau but the secret tunnel was still in play. The only thing wrong with this scenario is that the Braun Haus had been bombed out during an earlier air raid and that quartering soldiers in it was impossible.

The ring had indeed been manufactured in Germany but was advertised in a period catalog as a "Führer" ring and at least eight were sold. A close-up picture of the Alexander Auction piece shows very bad craftsmanship, so bad that no jeweler or Party member would have dared to give it to Hitler. The tiny picture of his mother from the earlier article was copied from a Hoffman picture appearing in one of his illustrated Hitler books and the dog picture, never shown anywhere, showed a Belgian shepherd dog that was black, not tan and black.

There are many collectors like Mr. Bily. They have a good deal of money, no knowledge or taste and are the delight of the dealers in such recently-manufactured glitterati as:

- The Grand Cross Presentation Papers
- The Sepp Dietrich Honor Sword
- The Goering Roman Sword
- Very bad copies of every German field marshal's baton
- A dozen or so "genuine Junckers Grand Crosses"
- At least six "Stars for the Grand Cross"
- A plethora of fake Damascus Feldherrnhalle daggers and SS Honor daggers

- A Damascus Himmmler letter opener
- Gold Mother's medals with diamonds
- Guerrilla warfare badges in gold with diamonds
- German Crosses in gold with diamonds
- At least three PP Walther pistols, heavily engraved and purporting to be Hitler's personal gun.
- Elaborate Knight's Cross presentation papers for many famous German air aces, General officers, SS leading lights and U-Boat officers
- The Adolf Hitler Bearing Sword
- At least six Hitler uniform tunics, all the wrong size and with the wrong colored tunic buttons
- Hitler's bunker couch

The last item, like the horrible fake Dietrich sword, came from Ben Swearingen of Texas. The late Mr. Swearingen was a school teacher who found creative and entertaining ways of enhancing his salary.

Arthur Royster

Newsletter for September 18, 2013, No. 120

Our publication on the so-called "Hitler ring" drew tremendous interest and aside from hysteria on the part of some, we got a most interesting communication from a person claiming to have "absolute" proof that this atrocity is indeed a genuine Hitler piece, cherished by him and shown to his friends.

Herewith is the file of correspondence on the ring which, in my opinion, looks like something concocted by a Tijuana jeweler full of cervesa.

Provenance and period publications would supply an answer to this question of authenticity and we leave final judgement to God and our members.

-----Original Message-----

From: AD Royster Militaria LLC

To: Gtbua

Sent: Sun, Sep 15, 2013 1:06 am

Subject: Newsletter for September 15, 2013, No. 119

Another hysterically, and ridiculously funny fake being foisted upon the collecting world.

Hitler's swastika ring pocketed by an American troop who raided his Bavarian retreat in 1945 expected to fetch £70,000 at auction

I've heard of revisionist history, but I never thought of Adolf Hitler as a pimp daddy.

I laughed so hard, I passed hot coffee through my nose.

To read more, go to http://adroystermilitaria.com/Dissecting_a_Fraud.html

AD

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Newsletter for September 15, 2013, No. 119

From: Gaspare Bua

Date: Sun, September 15, 2013 3:08 pm

To: admin@adroystermilitaria.com

you guys are alright,,but your WAY off about the ring. I've known Bill many years. I know much about the ring. I can prove 100% beyond a doubt that it is authentic!

I have offered authentication for a small fee. This period authentication took me 9 years of searching and probably \$1000. but I have it. Actually I have 2 forms of period authentication. One only 100 copies were made during the mid 30s. It is possible that mine could be the last surviving example. The 2nd is also very few pieces published,,probably more than 100,,but couldn't see more than a 1000,,,and its a real obscure publication limited in its subscribers etc. So yes you guys are usually on the money,,but this one , sorry to say your wrong, 100% wrong.... Say hi to PK for me!! ,G.

From: Arthur Royster

To: gtbua

Sent: Tue, Sep 17, 2013 7:44 am

Subject: RE: [FWD: Re: Newsletter for September 15, 2013, No. 119]

That this really awful piece of kitch existed during the course of the Third Reich I do not dispute. That it belonged to Hitler is nonsense.

Hitler got a large number of gifts on his birthday and it is entirely possible that some citizen sent this piece to the RK as a present but to say that some GI "found it in his home" is typical Gottlieb nonsense. There exist hundreds of fancy small pistols, some with pearl grips, some gold plated

and all with various inscriptions indicating gifts to Hitler. He did have a pistol, a 7.65 Browning, and it was not gold plated like the Atwood PP fake or others nestling in the collections of proud collectors.

I do not question that this was made during the period but I do deny the hype about it belonging to Hitler or the ludicrous story about the fortunate soldier finding it in his house. The Berghof was burned out by the SS guards before they left, acting on Hitler and Schaub's orders.

And Alexander Auctions, the people now trying to sell it, do not have a good reputation in the trade. They had a fake Reagen document, a stolen Lincoln one, the laughable "Hitler Desk Set" one of many unoriginal "Mussolini" watches and on and on.

We have had many thousands of viewers of our article and regardless of who made it or when they made it, it looks exactly like it was made by the same Tiajuana jeweler who made the equally tasteless "Viking SS ring" for the late, and unlamented, Roger Steele.

ADR

To: adroyster
Subject: Re: Newsletter for September 15, 2013, No. 119]
From: gtbua
Date: Wed, 18 Sep 2013 00:15:59 -0400

Mr Royster,

Thanks for the response. I am with you all the way on all your other findings except this one. Also agree with you there has been nothing worse to happen to our hobby than CraiggyPoo Gottlieb leaving the Forum business and deciding to become a 'expert' and Dealer!.. As far as him and the ring it must be lately. I spoke to him about the ring almost 10 years ago and he knew nothing of it's existence.

There are 2 forms of period documentation proving the ring belonged to AH. One simply being a trade magazine with a half page article. It shows 2 views of the ring and brief description something to the effect,,A magnificent ring made by ** and presented to AH on the occasion of **. Made a unique way with some unique materials.

The 2nd. is a catalog of the artists/jewelers work. Shows excellent photos [captioned] of the ring and it's description. While not exactly saying it but leads one to believe it was told to AH he was going to make the ring and present it to him at a later date on the occasion of ** with ceremonies. Good full page article about the jeweler, AH and the ring. The ring was made for and presented to him personally it says..

My old friend Bill [3rd owner of the ring after AH] used to have a uncorrected bound galley's [?]

of a book about AH spending his time end of the war in his bunker. Something about AH sitting around with his cronies , bored, while AH went on and on about some bullshit. AH would then occasionally pull out some gift he'd gotten from the early glory days and pass it around for all to Oooh and Aahh over. Bill would read it to me as if from the bible, Hitler would then pass around his 'magnificent gold and ruby ring for all to see'.

So yes there is plenty of bullshit out there to make fun of,,but this ring is the real deal..
Thanks for your time and keep at your wonderful site and investigations. We all appreciate them.
,G...

From: Arthur Royster
To: gtbua
Sent: Tue, Sep 17, 2013 7:44 am
Subject: RE: [FWD: Re: Newsletter for September 15, 2013, No. 119]

Dear Sir:

As I have said, I have no doubt this ring, and a number of others identical to it, were made during the course of the Third Reich. It is also entirely possible that someone bought one of these and sent it to Hitler on his birthday. That he wore it or carried it around, I do not believe.

Hitler had no jewelry and wore only a pair of gold cufflinks with the Danzig coat of arms on them. These were presented to him by his staff at Christmas, 1939. Hitler wore them throughout the war. He had no rings or wrist watches and carried a simple gold pocket watch. His pistol was not an ornate gold plated item but a plain Browning that he carried in his leather-lined right pants pocket whenever he went out.

If you can show me a publication, not a manuscript, that says the ring in question was possessed and worn by Hitler, I will alter my opinion but otherwise, given the appearance of this piece, I cannot accept that this is indeed "Hitler's Ring."

And also, I would like the provenance on this piece. Stories about fictive "GIs" finding this" or that piece in "Hitler's Bunker... Apartment...house..." without specific names, dates and military identification are self-serving and worthless.

Julius Schaub, Hitler's SS adjutant, went to his Munich apartment and took all of his items of clothing, caps, etc, and burnt them. Hitler's then-housekeeper, Anne Winter, told me this in some detail because Schaub burnt everything in the kitchen and she had to clean up the mess. At the Berghof, his mountain home, the SS detail there set fire to the entire building and period pictures show nothing left but charred wood and rubble. There were, sadly, no oil portraits of his parents for some soldier to loot.

Period published material and firm provenance are needed here and if you have it, I would greatly appreciate seeing it.

I should comment that a so-called "Hitler suicide pistol" once displayed on the cover of Argosy magazine and belonging to Lt. Colonel James Atwood is a case in point.

It was, and is, a Walther PP that is heavily engraved, gold-plated and with ivory grips bearing the letters, 'AH.'

Unfortunately for the Canadian collector who bought it, the maker's legend on the left slide said "Waffenfabrik Carl Walther/ Ulm/Donau." This factory did not open for business until 1965 and the original factory, of the period, was in Thuringia.

Also, a copy of the serial number on the frame was sent to the Walther people and their written response, in my possession, said that the gun in question was made for Major Atwood of Berlin! I understand the post-war address has now been crudely altered on the slide and the serial number engraved over, ruining whatever value this obvious fraud might have.

And recall Ben Sweringen who "discovered" the terrible gaudy fake "Sepp Dietrich Honor Sword" and the couch from Hitler's bunker!

More fakes for the trusting of nature and deep of purse!

And Billy Price of Houston, Texas, who bought many fake Hitler "oil paintings (Hitler never painted in oils, only watercolors)"

Arthur D. Royster

Newsletter for September 15, 2013, No. 119

Here we have another thrilling historical discovery that recently appeared in a British newspaper. It reads exactly like the puff pieces Craig Gottlieb used to plant in the media to hype his stunning precious treasures.



This particular piece of entertaining nonsense is attributed to ‘Alexander Auctions’ who, in the past, have offered the “Adolf Hitler Desk Set” and one of the many “Mussolini honor watch” given to Otto Skorzeny. The redoubtable Wilber Stump has very effectively demolished the fake desk set and the watch offered was made in 1950. The owner of Alexander Auctions is known in the trade as Fat Basil and he ought to be kept alive if only for his entertainment value!

Regards the Death's Head ring the article gushes about at its close, one can only point out the fact that there were hundreds of these rings made before 1943 (when they stopped making them) and thousands after the war. The latter are all cast (the originals are struck) and the better castings are called ‘investment quality rings.’

One wonders if [the author of these articles](#) is either a fool or stands to profit from sales.

Newsletter for September 13, 2013, No. 118

[Here we have an exact reproduction of a Chinese catalog for copies of the famous “SS Allach](#)

Porcelain” that is fully-illustrated. A dealer in these items once bitterly complained to us that it was “completely impossible” for the Chinese to fake porcelain! Since this has been going on, very successfully, in China for over 2,000 years, the screaming is a case of sour grapes.

The Chinese do a first class job and if you like the subject matter, why pay enormous prices when you can satisfy your esthetic longings for far less than the dealers charge. And besides, in all probability, the same dealers making the most noise are also selling the Pride of Hong Kong but not as modern copies!

Newsletter for September 7, 2013, No. 117

A short email exchange which should be of interest to all.

Subject: Hitler's pill box cap
From: xxxxxxxx@gmail.com
Date: Sat, 7 Sep 2013 01:47:02 -0400
To: AD@ADRoysterMilitaria.com

Dear Sir,

I had stumbled upon your website entirely by accident. I was looking for militaria to purchase as is my hobby. I have been a collector for about 30 years. My father brought me into the hobby.

To give you a little background so I am not considered a troll by your definition, I was taught from a young age the provenance is everything in the collecting world. I find many of your posts to be truthful regarding the many fakes that infiltrate our hobby, however your post regarding the Hitler feldmutze seems to be that you accept the story without question.

Many of these caps were produced, what would prevent me from using a type of ink that many document forgers use for their work ? The cap also made it's way to a high end dealer for almost 20 thousand dollars, much of what you claim to disdain about our hobby.

Please do not misread my intentions, I find much truth in your blog regarding many of the dealers your mention, I just do not understand what makes this particular piece beyond reproach. It seems to not be your style. On the for sale web site it also offers a letter of authenticity.

I hope that you stick to educating readers of your post as to the perils of our hobby and not outright choose to endorse others, I am no expert, but was taught in the hobby to at least be prudent when examining evidence. the cap may be correct, but anytime something rare comes out of the woodwork, I hope you would accept your own advice.

I hope you respond, I would love to continue the conversation. This piece may be right, but who

really knows ?

Regards,

xxxxxxx@aol.com

My name is Rxxxx, I hope to hear from you !

Dear Sir:

I am entirely certain the cap is genuine.

The owner has an official EUCOM document permitting the soldier to retain and ship back to the United States a number of captured items, to specifically include this cap.

I have had a number of such pieces over the years and there is no doubt whatsoever that the cap is an authentic one.

The cockades are steel instead of the modern aluminum ones and the ink from the issue depot was checked and is old.

Ink is easy to date, by the way.

The hat is of the correct size and the official issue marks are all authentic.

And provenance is indeed very important on item, be it paintings, sculpture or personality items.

Old Charlie Snyder with his barn full of fake 'Hitler paintings' and all of the glittering fakes offered by Messers Wolfe, Gottlieb, et al, never have provenance.

The fake "Grand Cross" papers Wolfe sold to Chen for a million dollars and the "Hitler desk set" are excellent examples of the superficial, and simple, attempts at fraud.

And why not buy "an investment quality SS Honor Ring" that shows surface pitting from being recently cast?

Poor Hitler has had more fakes attributed to him that the medieval religious world was able to concoct Jesus relics but Goering is a close second!

The 'Spear of Destiny' is a Saxon piece from about 700 AD and the Shroud of Turin was made by painting a decently-draped model with egg tempera and pressing the 13th Century cloth drape over him while he was still damp.

The high-end militaria dealers merely say that they "got it from a vet" but without the slightest offer of proof.

That's why the papers accompanying this hat make it well worth the price.

I am rather tired of seeing obvious frauds such as a 'Fieldmarshal von Mannstein' tunic that is

size 38 regular when von Mannstein was a 42 regular.

On the other hand, as I explained to the outraged and wailing owner of this entertainment, it was probably made for Mannstein when he was ten in anticipation of his later position!

The owner has sold the Hitler cap to a major dealer in Hitler pieces and it is listed in his catalog.

Thank you for your comments.

A.D. Royster

Newsletter for September 5, 2013, No. 116

Here we have a photo essay covering a flood of totally fake, and mostly fantasy, SS insignia.

The concentration camp cuff titles never existed during the period, for instance, but perhaps Holocaust museums can buy them to add to their assemblages of other fake items like the post-war Anne Frank Diaries (written in ballpoint ink on post-war treated paper).

Regretfully, none of these were found in the huge vaults under Schloss Klessheim but these certainly will nestle next to a “genuine” Müller “Damascus” SS sword, dagger or letter-opener at the next SoS or Max shows.

Newsletter for August 31, 2013, No. 115

A small but very angry group of military collectors have recently taken great offense at our description of trolls.

By ‘troll’ is meant the nasty, petty-minded twits that infest the forums for collectors, attempting to shove their worthless opinions down the throats of respectable collectors, criticizing everything in sight, insulting other collectors, and in general, displaying an appalling ignorance of the collecting world.

In the main, the trolls have no money and so take a leaf from the Aesop fable about the fox and grapes and claim that items they could not afford to pay even the postage on are obviously fake. Having seen what passes for a troll collection in the past, it is realistic to state that their own pathetic assemblages are mostly comprised of broken, mis-attributed or entirely fake items.

Crooked dealers are quite bad enough and their transparent use of forums to boost their latest fakes (“Just got this jewel from a vet...” and “Some lucky collector gets to buy my gold Mother’s Medal with Oakleaves and Diamonds for only \$35,000! And yes, this one did come from Schloss Klessheim!”)

Troll postings are also only semi-literate and very short in length because most trolls are only semi-literate and reading anything longer than the back of a cereal box gives them headaches and eyestrain.

Our forum has been set up specifically to keep out the trolls in the same sense as farmers putting up fences around their truck gardens to keep the pigs out.

And then we have the pseudo-expert who claims to have been a genuine “war hero” and as such, above the rest of the collecting world.

Unfortunately for them, military records are not secret so someone who says they were a top man in special forces and decorated by the President himself were almost always supply sergeants who were invalided out of service with severe hemorrhoid problems. (Of the sort George W. Bush had and for the same unprintable reasons)

A collecting forum ought to be a pleasant gathering place for serious collectors, not a playground for gap-jawed trolls and dealers trying frantically to authenticate and sell the pride of Pakistan (or Poland)

Newsletter for August 23, 2013, No. 114

Trollbane

Now that our forum is up and running, we have been getting a small but very loud emails from the trolls. They cannot believe that they, important members of the collecting fraternity, have to *actually pay* to have their brilliant views aired for the admiration of all.

They have told us that their importance to the collecting world is such that they ought to have free membership and the ability to post whatever they deem right and proper.

One can see the work of the trolls every day on the Wehrmacht Awards Forum. Semi-literate, they preach, criticize and strut like a flock of drunken parrots picking fermented seeds out of an Amazon rain forest fruit tree.

According to them they know everything but in fact, they know nothing and it has been rightfully said that the empty drum makes the most noise.

Some of their remarks can be copied for the entertainment of many and the the anger of a few.

"I don't think that shade of black on the SS panzer jacket is right. I have written to Captain Panzerfaust and he agrees that the black is not dark enough..."

"Some so-called 'experts' have said the SS officer's belt buckle guns are fake but I know they are not because *mine* came from my grandfather who took it off an SS general after the Battle of the Bulge...."

"That horrible Royster is doing nothing but making trouble for real collectors. He told people that the Willi Schumacher collection of SS uniforms is full of fakes and humped pieces. He says either the uniforms are fake and the insignia is original or the uniforms are genuine but the insignia is fake! Can you believe such crap? Why Willi bought most of these treasures from George Petersen and George would never sell a fake....."

And collectors of field gear should note that there is a flood of gloves, underwear, shirts, field dressings, sweaters, socks and the like coming out of eastern Europe in boxcar loads. And from Poland we find boxes of fake German imperial flight badges, many with screwbacks (which is a dead giveaway).

At the bigger militaria shows we used to see cases of "rare" "Feldherrnhalle" daggers with Damascus blades, hilts of ivory, silver, ebony and even marble! These ended up in Russian collections and now the cases are filled with equally fake 'Mueller' SS Damascus daggers, letter-openers and swords, all the product of the late Jimmy Atwood. And all acid-etched, not genuine Damascus. (If you soak one of these Precious Treasures in acetone, the color comes right off and so do the expoxied-on gold letters. Don't try this if you have heart problems)

Newsletter for July 13, 2013, No. 113

This is to inform our readers that the Royster Forum is up and ready to go.

To sign up, interested collectors should [click on this link](#).

You can review the forum format by [clicking here](#).

Disagreement is always with us but disagreement must be civil or it degenerates into spite and that we do not want. And from the comments we have received once we announced our intentions, neither do most legitimate collectors.

We welcome articles on militaria subjects, with or without pictures, and we are not interested in whether this medal or that belt buckle is not just like the one our cousin Edgar has.

A legitimate forum is very valuable for all collectors but is not, and never would be acceptable, to the egotists, liars and crooks. I, and others, have noted that on the WAF one finds rave reviews of certain dealers, at least one of whom is a part owner of the forum, and their “really wonderful” recent veteran purchases (made in Pakistan or Poland)

We have no problem showing the material of both legitimate dealers and also of legitimate collectors. “SS General’s Belt Buckle Guns” or “Rommel’s Field Marshal’s Baton” have no place in our forum.

As we draw closer to finishing our structure, we will be back in touch and any interested person with something serious to say, or ask, is invited to send on their submissions, pictures and comments.

Newsletter for July 14, 2013, No. 112

Quarrel Over Hitler & Goering Relics

July 17, 2013

by Christine Stuart

Courthouse News

STAMFORD, Conn. (CN) - An auction house that sold an Adolph Hitler watercolor and relics of Mussolini and Goering didn't pay the owner the \$81,600 it has coming, the consignor claims in

court.

Lorraine Meyer, trustee for the William C. Blynn Irrevocable Trust, of Ohio, sued Alexander Historical Auctions, of Connecticut and Delaware, Alexander Autographs Inc., and its principal Basil Panagopulos. Meyer claims the defendants sold the relics for \$89,690.10, and kept all of it, though it's entitled to just 9 percent.

The trust consigned the property to Alexander Historical Auctions on Nov. 18, 2012, and the auction was held on Jan. 30 and 31 this year.

Among the 20 items sold, according to the complaint, were:

A Hitler watercolor of a church interior, which went for \$11,000;

a "presentation sword that would determine Mussolini's political philosophy," which brought \$52,000;

a "Mein Kampf 'Gauleiter' Edition," for \$9,000;

"Hermann Goering Reich Marshall's Automobile Command Flag," for \$3,250.

The "list of the sold goods" in the complaint does not explain how a sword could determine Mussolini's political philosophy, which is well known; nor does it explain the sale of "Benito Mussolini" for \$260.

The "1939 East Prussia Political Leaders' Shooting Prize" sold for \$4,000, according to the complaint.

"Plaintiff retained ownership rights to the consigned property and/or the values of the consigned property and only provided possession of the consigned property to the defendant AHA/CT and/or AA and/or Panagopulos for the specific purpose of auctioning the consigned property," the complaint states.

"The agreement provided that the defendant AHA/CT was to get paid a flat rate fee of 9 percent of the total amount sold at auction of the plaintiff's items with the net sale proceeds to be paid to the plaintiff 45 days after the final closing date of the sale."

The defendants' 9 commission comes to \$8,072.10, so it owes the plaintiff \$81,617.90, which was due by March 17, according to the complaint.

"Despite demand the defendant has failed, refused and/or otherwise neglected to pay the plaintiff anything for the items it auctioned," the complaint states.

The defendant requested an additional 60 days to make payment in May "citing business and personal financial issues he is having, none of which have anything to do with the agreement of the parties," according to the complaint.

The plaintiff claims that some items did not sell, but the defendant has not returned all the unsold goods. It claims the defendant is still holding onto a Hitler ring, a Nazi Globe Case, a Hermann Goering tie pin/broach, August Wilhelm's riding crop and a presentation Coburg Badge stained glass window.

The fair market value of those goods are approximately \$138,750, according to the complaint.

A sale could take place as soon as today, but the goods have not been catalogued for that auction or any other auction, the complaint states: "The plaintiff is in danger of losing the Subject Goods unless it obtains immediate possession or is otherwise enjoined against sale or other disposition because the Subject Goods are capable of rapid removal from the jurisdiction and/or concealment, capable of transfer to innocent third party purchasers and although plaintiff has demanded the return of the Subject Goods, defendants have refused to deliver said items to plaintiff."

The plaintiff seeks an injunction, return of the goods the defendant still has in its possession, plus actual damages, treble damages, and punitive damages, with interest, for breach of contract, civil theft, conversion, deceptive trade and unjust enrichment.

The plaintiff is represented by Renee Cannella with Bachand and Bachand of Bridgeport.

The complaint says nothing about the plaintiff trust: its purpose nor how it acquired the goods.

Hitler tried his hand at painting before he turned to politics

Newsletter for July 14, 2013, No. 111

After a great deal of paperwork, the Royster Forum is on the verge of final construction and launching.

The purpose of this forum will be to provide an outlet for militaria collectors, free from manipulation by dealers seeking to sell their expensive fakes and also, and even more importantly, to keep the petty and often vicious minor collectors quiet.

We are all aware of the pseudo-expert who knows nothing but delights in trashing everything and everyone in sight and spending the rest of his shining hours telling everyone how really important he is.

To achieve this, we have decided to have any incoming material looked at prior to publication and to keep out the petty as well as the crooked. Now some dealers, and even more collectors, really do not know what is real and what is not but in the end, some kind of benign control has to be exercised or the forum will certainly end up as nothing but a sandbox for the tinies to scream in.

Disagreement is always with us but disagreement must be civil or it degenerates into spite and that we do not want. And from the comments we have received once we announced our intentions, neither do most legitimate collectors.

We welcome articles on militaria subjects, with or without pictures, and we are not interested in whether this medal or that belt buckle is not just like the one our cousin Edgar has.

A legitimate forum is very valuable for all collectors but is not, and never would be acceptable, to the egotists, liars and crooks. I, and others, have noted that on the WAF one finds rave reviews of certain dealers, at least one of whom is a part owner of the forum, and their “really wonderful” recent veteran purchases (made in Pakistan or Poland)

We have no problem showing the material of both legitimate dealers and also of legitimate collectors. “SS General’s Belt Buckle Guns” or “Rommel’s Field Marshal’s Baton” have no place in our forum.

As we draw closer to finishing our structure, we will be back in touch and any interested person with something serious to say, or ask, is invited to send on their submissions, pictures and

comments.

Arthur Royster

Newsletter for June 24, 2013, No. 110

At this point in time, it is generally well-known inside the collecting fraternity that James P. Atwood ran a thriving, and very profitable business in fake German Third Reich daggers. His book on daggers was a well-produced work that was stuffed with his very own created fakes and with pieces he had made up in Solingen, Germany while he was a CIA operative in Berlin. He even made up the so-called “Adolf Hitler Assassination Rifle” for the CIA’s Dirty Tricks department, keeping a second copy to sell to an unsuspecting, and rich, collector. Here, for interested collectors, is some additional background on Colonel Atwood:

JAMES P. ATWOOD

A most interesting individual was James P. Atwood (April 16, 1930- July 20, 1997).

During the Iran Contra affair, General Secord's arms shipments, arraigned through the CIA, transferred weapons destined for Central America to Merex Corporation, (Merex International Arms) of Savannah, Ga. The Merex address was occupied by Combat Military Ordinances Ltd., controlled by retired military officer James P. Atwood. Atwood, a retired Lieutenant Colonel of U.S. Military Intelligence, [and later a CIA contract worker], stationed in their Berlin office, was involved in major arms trades with CIA-sponsored international buyers, specifically Middle Eastern Arab states. Monzer Al-Kassar utilized the Merex firm for some of his weapons transactions with the CIA-controlled international weapons cartel.

Merex systems was founded by Otto Skorzeny’s associate Gerhard Mertins in Bonn after the war and was considered a CIA proprietary firm. Merex was close to and worked with the BND, the German intelligence service evolved from the CIA-controlled Gehlen organization. Atwood was involved with Interarmco, run by Samuel Cummings, an Englishman who ran the largest arms firm in the world. Cummings died in Monaco Carlo with a country place at Villars in the Swiss Alps where he resettled in 1960 because he had looted his CIA employers and found European residence safer than Warrenton, Virginia.

Interarms (formerly Interarmco and officially the International Armaments Corporation) was the world's largest private arms dealer, and once had enough weapons in their warehouses to equip forty U.S. divisions. The sole owner was Sam Cummings, who got his start working with the CIA to procure weapons for the 1954 coup in Guatemala.

During the Iran Contra affair, General Secord's arms shipments, arraigned through the CIA, transferred weapons destined for Central America to Merex Corp. (Merex International Arms) of Savannah, Ga. Combat Military Ordinances Ltd., controlled by Atwood, occupied the Merex address. Atwood, a retired Lieutenant Colonel of U.S. Military Intelligence and later a CIA officer station in their Berlin office, was involved in major arms trades with CIA-sponsored international buyers, specifically Middle Eastern Arab states. Monzer Al-Kassar utilized the Merex firm for some of his weapons transactions with the Enterprise. Merex weapons systems was founded by Otto Skorzeny’s associate Gerhard Mertins in Bonn after the war and was considered a CIA proprietary firm. Mertex was close to

and worked with the BND, the German intelligence service evolved from the CIA-controlled Gehlen organization.

Atwood also counterfeited rare German daggers, stolen archives and much more in and out of various countries from his headquarters in Savannah, Georgia.

During his career, Atwood worked with the CIA's Sam Cummings, Tom Nelson, Jim Critchfield and many others

Atwood's activities are linked to Robert Crowley (who knew him and disliked him) ,to Jim Critchfield and a number of other CIA luminaries.

Arrested by the Army's CIC in the early 60s, for misuse of government mail, tax fraud and other matters, Atwood got the CIA to force the charges against him dropped. All the paperwork was supposed to have been destroyed but a copy of the 62 count indictment plus the Chicago Federal judge's orders has survived.

Atwood operated in the Middle East, Germany and Central America. He sold US secrets to Marcus Wolfe of the Stasi and the BND photographed them together in East Berlin

He smuggled guns into Guatemala and Nicaragua and drugs into the US.

Atwood's role in supplying weapons and explosives to the Quebec Libré movement. The head of the Canada Desk at the Company was actively encouraging this group to split away from Canada. This is a chapter that the CIA does not want discussed. Atwood's connections with Skorzeny and the IRA/Provo wing make dramatic reading. One of Atwood's Irish connections is the man who ran the cell that blew up Lord Louis Mountbatten in 1979. There is also the shipping of weapons into the southern Mexican provinces by Atwood and his Guatemala based consortium, Oceanic Cargo.

Atwood had a number of ex-Gestapo and SD people on board, some of whom were wanted for war crimes.

Both Schwend and Klaus Barbie formed Transmaritania which was a shipping company that also generated millions of dollars in profits from the cocaine business. They purchased their weapons from another SS colleague, Colonel Otto Skorzeny who had been head of SS Commando units towards the end of the war, later worked for the CIA and had started the Merex weapons business in Bonn after the war. Another Atwood contact was one Walter Rauff, a senior SD officer, friend of Dulles and once head of the SD in Milan (after a tour in Tunisia as head of the SD there during Rommel's campaign in Africa.)

The Rauff story is even more entertaining than the Barbie one and more disruptive when it becomes public. Rauff worked for the CIA, lived unmolested and well protected by the CIA, in South America .

While Atwood was involved in supplying weapons to Cuban insurgents for the Bay of Pigs incident, he stated to a number of his associates that he learned of highly classified information on the accidental release, in Florida, of deadly toxins that the CIA was planning to use in advance of the invasion to "soften up" Castro's militia.

The designated head of the CIA, Porter Goss, was a CIA agent in Florida at this time, was involved in the planning and expected execution of the Cuban invasion and suddenly became "very ill", as his specs on Google point out, and had to retire. Atwood told his friends that Goss, later a Florida political figure, was a participating party in this specific part of the CIA invasion plans.

Atwood was involved with Interarmco, run by Samuel Cummings, an Englishman who ran the largest

arms firm in the world. Cummings died in Monaco because he had looted his CIA employers and found that principality safer than Warrenton, Virginia. Also connected with Atwood's firm were Collector's Armory, Thomas Nelson Prop, and a George Petersen of Springfield, Virginia, and Emmanuel (Manny) Wiegenberg, a Canadian arms dealer and it might prove instructive to look into Atwood's role in supplying weapons and explosives to the Quebec Libré movement. The head of the Canada Desk at the Company was actively encouraging this group to split away from Canada. This is a chapter that the CIA does not want discussed. Also look into Atwood's connections with Skorzeny and the IRA/Provo wing.

One of Atwood's Irish connections is the man who blew up Lord Louis Mountbatten in 1979 and I have a file on this as well (but not here) You might also want to investigate the shipping of weapons into the southern Mexican provinces by Atwood and his Guatemala based consortium. Atwood had a number of ex-Gestapo and SD people on board, some of whom were wanted. Klaus Barbie was also connected.

Barbie, who was Gestapo chief in Lyon, France, during the war, worked for the CIC after the war and fled to South America when his American handlers tipped him off. Barbie took some of the hidden Nazi gold and invested it in several businesses and also continued to prosper by starting the Estrella Company which sold bark, coca paste, and assault weapons to a former SS officer, Frederick Schwend in Lima, Peru. Schwend had been trained by the OSS in the early 1940s after he had informed Allen Dulles that the German SS had hidden millions in gold, cash, and loot as the European war was winding down.

Among other activities, Atwood became known as the Dagger King because of his manufacture and merchandising of a large number of German ceremonial swords and daggers from the Third Reich period.

In 1992, following the collapse of the Soviet Union, there was considerable concern expressed in US intelligence circles about the whereabouts, and also the security of, certain ex-Soviet military tactical atomic warheads. In the 1960s, the Soviet Union launched R&D to miniaturize and improve reliability of nuclear weapons. Development activities included strategic systems for the Navy; cruise missiles, aviation bombs and artillery projectiles [the smallest nuclear charge was developed for a 152mm artillery projectile]. The model is based on unclassified data on the components in an atomic artillery shell, to see if such a system could be reassembled in a suitcase. Indeed, as it turns out, the physics package, neutron generators, batteries, arming mechanism and other essentials of a small atomic weapon can fit, just barely, in an attaché case. The result is a plutonium-fueled gun-type atomic weapon having a yield of one-to-ten kilotons, the same yield range attributed in a 1998 US media interview by General Lebed to the Russian "nuclear suitcase" weapon."

Atwood, the former Interarmco people and an Israeli Russian named Yurenko (actually Schemiel Gofshstein) formed a consortium in conjunction with James Critchfield, retired senior CIA specialist on oil matters in the Mideast to obtain a number of these obsolete but still viable weapons. Both Critchfield and the Interarmco people had, at the behest of the CIA, supplied weapons to the rebels in Afghanistan during their protracted struggle with the Soviet Union. Critchfield worked with the Dalai Lama of Tibet in a guerrilla war against Communist China and headed a CIA task force during the Cuban missile crisis. He also ran regional agency operations when the two superpowers raced to secure satellites first in Eastern Europe, then in the Middle East.

In the early 1960s, Critchfield recommended to the CIA that the United States support the Baath Party, which staged a 1963 coup against the Iraqi government that the CIA believed was falling under Soviet influence. Critchfield later boasted, during the Iran-Iraq war that he and the CIA "had created Saddam Hussein." With the growing political importance of Middle East oil, he became the CIA's national intelligence officer for energy in the late 1960s and early 1970s, then an energy policy planner at the White House. He also fronted a dummy CIA corporation in the Middle East known as Basic Resources, which was used to gather OPEC-related intelligence for the Nixon administration. .

Critchfield was the chief of the CIA's Near East and South Asia division in the 1960s and a national intelligence officer for energy as the oil shortage crisis began in the early 1970s. Officially retiring from the CIA in 1974, Critchfield became a consultant, corporate president of Tetra Tech International , a Honeywell Inc. subsidiary and which managed oil, gas, and water projects in the strategic Masandam Peninsula. It sits on the Strait of Hormuz, through which much of the West's oil is transported. At the same time, Critchfield was a primary adviser to the Sultan of Oman, focusing on Middle East energy resources, especially those in Oman.

Since at least 1981, a worldwide network of independent [i.e., no direct U.S. government ties] companies, including airlines, aviation and military spare parts suppliers, and trading companies, has been utilized by the CIA and the U.S. government to illegally ship arms and military spare parts to Iran and to the Contras. These companies were set up with the approval and knowledge of senior CIA officials and other senior U.S. government officials and staffed primarily by ex-CIA, ex-FBI and ex-military officers.

These CIA-controlled companies include, but are not limited to, Aero Systems, Inc., of Miami, Arrow Air, Aero Systems Pvt. Ltd of Singapore, Hierax of Hong Kong, Pan Aviation in Miami, Merex in Georgia, Sur International, St. Lucia Airways, Global International Airways, International Air Tours of Nigeria, Continental Shelf Explorations, Inc., Jupiter, Florida, Varicon, Inc., Dane Aviation Supply of Miami, Parvus, Safir, International Trading and Investment Guaranty Corp., Ltd., Air America, CAA, and Information Security International Inc., Air Asia Co., Ltd., Arrow Air, Civil Air Transport (CAT) , Dane Aviation Supply, Intermountain Aviation, SODIMAC Southern Air Transport

In 1997, Atwood, who had the distressing habit of speaking freely while drinking, had lunch with several CIA friends and fell into his soup plate. The cause was a "sudden embolism" and Atwood was quickly cremated and forgotten.

Newsletter for June 16, 2013, No. 109

Here we have a fascinating report, written by a well-known specialist on German Third Reich militaria in general and the paratroop units in specific. This is a remarkable, inside view of the workings of U.S. Counterintelligence in the UK, a subject of recent concern and interest. Not only are American agencies spying on citizens of the UK, with full cooperation from internet servers but the UK intelligence people as well. Mr. Mason is also working on more articles that will cover France, Germany and Sweden. In an earlier article published elsewhere, Mr. Mason goes into considerable detail about the genuine and very serious

menace the radical Muslim religious movement poses to Western Civilization.

Mason on the UK

by Chris Mason

June 12, 2013

By his actions in revealing top secret data about personal information of American, and foreign, citizens, , young Mr. Snowden has done irreparable damage to America's national defense and protection programs.

Until he violated his oath of secrecy, we were able to watch, and track not only the all-pervasive and deadly Muslim terrorists world-wide but also keep a close watch on domestic American trouble-makers such as infested this country during the Vietnam war. Now, his actions have severely compromised various American computer companies who, until this week, were able and willing to assist our protective measures.

These companies are now being attacked by their millions of users and I am assured that many of them are losing customers at an alarming rate.

One of our most important resources for compiling files on any person expressing negative or anti-government views, Facebook, is having serious troubles.

When the FBI became involved in that project, they could clearly see how valuable an intelligence asset it could be. Their control of Internet II and their strong, on-going relationship with search engine Google paled into insignificance beside the trove of valuable data that Facebook was able to provide them.

Now, all of this valuable sourcing is destroyed, due solely to the misguided youth who, quite literally, stabbed all of us in the intelligence community in the back.

But we also suffered even worse damage when it was revealed that many other countries eagerly assisted our NSA (and the CIA, the FBI and the DHS) in allowing us to also keep records, and conduct discreet surveillance, on citizens of other countries, such as the UK, France, Germany, Indonesia, Pakistan, Sweden, Switzerland, China and Russia.

Just recently, Snowden surfaced documents to the effect that the United States had hacked many hundreds of targets in outwardly neutral Hong Kong, to include state officials, many businesses and schools and students both in that city as well as identical targets on the PRC mainland. He made the claim that these were only part of the annual 60,000 NSA interdiction operations.

One of the worst hit countries was our long-time ally, Great Britain.

The British face domestic problems even more accentuated than those of the United States. They have a large and very restive black population as well as a larger Muslim one (approximately 1.6 million) and many of these are the young, dissatisfied types so easily recruited by the imams bent on furthering religious attacks on Christian communities that are perceived as "oppressing" Muslim countries. And in the black population, many of the younger members are also targets for Muslim fanaticism. The Muslim population percentages in larger UK cities, for example are: Greater London - 17% (1.3 million of 7.5 million) and the industrial city of Birmingham 14.3% (139,771)

Their authorities are absolutely in full cooperation with American identification projects and we have had the total support of the following UK internet providers:

BT Group: operates the BT Total Broadband brand and has 4.6 million customers. The company has broadband to other ISPs through the Openreach brand. It also operates under the Plusnet brand. Plusnet was founded in 1997..

Sky Broadband: a digital TV provider that also provides broadband and home phone services. Launched in 2006, it has its headquarters in London, UK. It offers bundle services with TV, home phone and broadband services. It has operated the Be Unlimited brand since February 2013. In 2013 it acquired O2's home broadband business

Virgin Media: offers consumers a quadruple play bundle of TV, broadband, home phone and mobile. The UK ISP has approximately 10 million customers. The company also provides fibre optic broadband of up to 100Mb, with 120Mb

TalkTalk: TalkTalk offers broadband service to consumers in the UK. Launched in 2004, the ISP has a customer base of 4.12 million. The ISP offers broadband and landline phone services, primarily through LLU. TalkTalk also operates the AOL Broadband brand.

Udata : - Udata Infrastructure UK is a broadband provider focusing on public sector markets with a customer base covering schools, local authorities and primary care trusts.

EE: Operates home broadband under the EE brand, previously operated as Orange Broadband.

Also working closely with U.S. identification/interdiction programs are several top UK domestic intelligence agencies. These are: The British government's eavesdropping agency GCHQ. GCHQ, has had access to the system since June, 2010. The Secret Intelligence Service (SIS), commonly known as MI6 (Military Intelligence, Section 6), which is the agency which supplies Her Majesty's Government with foreign intelligence.

Prism programme allowed GCHQ to circumvent the formal legal process required to obtain personal material, such as emails, photographs and videos, from internet companies based outside the UK.

The JTLS (Joint Technical Language Service) is a small department and cross-government resource responsible for mainly technical language support and translation and interpreting services across government departments. It is co-located with GCHQ for administrative purposes.

GCHQ has contacted the PRISM program of the National Security Agency (NSA) more than 19,785 times with requests for information on the citizens of the UK since 2007 and cross-government resource responsible for mainly technical language support and translation and interpreting services across government departments. It is co-located with GCHQ for administrative purposes.

The FBI and the NSA can tap directly into the central servers of nine leading internet companies and, in addition, there is high-tech computer system that captures images of "every mail piece that is processed" by the United State Postal Service .Postal Service computer system that incorporates a Mail Isolation Control and Tracking (MICT) program which photographs and captures an image of every mail piece that is processed.

The Director of US National Intelligence has officially stated that American law ensures that only 'non-US persons outside the US are targeted'

Mr. Snowden's untimely revelations have caused political upheaval in the upper governmental levels of the UK and these agencies are now making extraordinary efforts to distance themselves from American intelligence gathering efforts.

Mr. Snowden has, in fact, done terrible damage, not only to UK relations but threatened additional revelations stand well to create even more serious problems with the governments of both Germany and France.

While the intelligence agencies of these countries are involved, heavily, in mutually satisfactory exchanges of information, like the political figures in the UK, they fear the Snowden revelations would cause serious problems with their electorates and are making efforts to terminate their hitherto very successful, complete assistance in the matter of observing all of their populations.

While many countries are eager to identify potential, and actual, Muslim terrorists in their own country, political constraints will prevent them from either acknowledging or participating in further such interdictions of their own people.

For this reason, bringing Mr. Snowden to public trial, with a conviction and a subsequently long prison sentence would certainly be in order, and one must weigh the deterrent factor with the probable adverse publicity attendant upon such a trial. And, as has been discussed, simply terminating him with extreme prejudice might prove to be the most effective course, but again, public perceptions must be taken into consideration.

Further, we have reason to believe that Mr. Snowden in all probability has taken out an "insurance policy" against termination by removing many sensitive and potentially highly damaging documents and again, this must be taken into consideration.

It is to be regretted that many of our most secret computer programs are staffed by young technical experts who do not have the world-outlook that our older agents possess and often involve themselves with so-called ethical problems that, in point of fact, are none of their business.

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The Turkish media are rife with speculation that a former U.S. Navy and State Department officer who is married to Yasemin Çongar, once the Washington bureau chief of the Turkish newspaper *Milliyet* and now affiliated with *Taraf*, is a C.I.A. agent. The main evidence linking the two has been provided by an April 2002 article that Çonger published in the *Foreign Service Journal*, in which she identified herself as being “married to FSO Chris Mason”.

Mr. Mason has written to the *Evening Gazette* , categorically denying the allegations made in the original 2 Feb 2010 article about him by Oray Egin. In particular, Mr. Mason reportedly has denied ever being associated with, or having received compensation from, the C.I.A. or the RAND Corporation, as alleged in the article. He states that he is a retired diplomat with an academic interest in Afghanistan, and has demanded that the *Evening Gazette* retract their false and unfounded allegations, while reserving the right to further legal actions against the paper.

This may well be true but as his public *curriculum vitae* shows, he seems to have had and continues to have close working relationships with the U.S. intelligence community. He claims to lecture regularly at the Joint Special Operations University, the Naval Postgraduate School, the National Defense University, and to teach at the Fort Bragg Special Operations Center, Fort Carson, Fort Drum, and other military posts.

Although his *curriculum vitae* no longer appears on the Naval Graduate School website, Chris Mason's research, publication, and advisory work is still amply documented on it. For example, "NPS Senior Research Fellow and retired Foreign Service Officer Chris Mason" addressed the Conference on Culture and Counterinsurgency in Southern Afghanistan, Aug. 25-27, 2009, which was attended by U.S. Lt. Gen. McChrystal and Canadian Brig. Gen. Daniel Menard and a dozen top officers of his Joint Task Force-Afghanistan; Mason reportedly made a presentation on "using Pashtun culture for strategic advantage".

M. Chris Mason is a Senior Research Fellow with the Program for Culture & Conflict Studies, focusing on the history and ethnography of Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. Mr. Mason is a retired Foreign Service Officer who served as the Afghanistan Policy Officer for the Bureau of Political Military Affairs at the State Department for four years beginning in June 2001, developing U.S. security policy on Afghanistan, ranging from the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), to the Disarmament Program (DDR) and the Afghan National Army (ANA).

While at the State Department, he worked closely with the intelligence community on a number of classified projects involving tribal mapping and the tribes of Afghanistan. He was considered the State Department's expert on the history, culture and ethnography of the country and served on the CIA's Pashtun Red Cell.

In 2005, he served as the Political Officer on the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) in Paktika Province on the Pakistan border. As the senior US government civilian in the province, he traveled widely with the provincial governor and U.S. Army maneuver elements, engaging thousands of Afghans at speeches and *Shura* (elders) meetings across the province. Prior to that tour, Mr. Mason had previously traveled frequently to Afghanistan, beginning in January, 2002 on a variety of security-related projects.

He is currently also a Senior Fellow at the Center for Advanced Defense Studies in Washington, DC, and serves as the South Asia Desk Officer for the Marine Corps Center for Advanced Culture Learning (CAOCL) in Quantico, Virginia, where he developed the Marine Corps' classroom program and distance-learning training programs for Afghanistan, wrote the Afghanistan Deployer's Cultural Guide, and trains Marines deploying to Afghanistan.

Mr. Mason served 23 years in the U.S. government as a Naval Officer and Foreign Service Officer. From 2001 to 2005, he was a policy officer on the Afghanistan Interagency Operations Group at the State Department and most recently served as the political officer on the Provincial Reconstruction Team in Paktika Province. He lectures regularly on Afghanistan and Counterinsurgency at Joint Special Operations University, the Naval Postgraduate School and the National Defense University, and teaches Afghan history, culture, and ethnography to military personnel deploying to Afghanistan at the Fort Bragg Special Operations Center, Fort Carson, Fort Drum, and other military posts. He holds a Master's Degree in Military Studies, and is a PhD candidate in History at The George Washington University

Earlier Mr. Mason had been a Senior Research Fellow with the Program for Culture & Conflict Studies, at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.

Mr. Mason currently lectures on ethnography and counterinsurgency in Afghanistan at the National Defense University, the Joint Special Operations University, Fort Bragg, RAND, DynCorps, and the Naval Postgraduate School.

In addition, he teaches a course on Counterinsurgency for the Master of Security Studies (MSS) program at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), and lectures on Afghanistan history, culture and the Taliban for the U.S. Army's traveling Leadership Development and Education for Sustained Peacekeeping (LDESP) program which trains military personnel deploying to Afghanistan.

Prior to joining the Foreign Service in 1990, Mr. Mason served as a Peace Corps volunteer in South America from 1977-1979 and naval officer on active duty from 1981-1986, with tours as a gunnery officer (USS John Young, DD973), a forward observer (2d Battalion 12th Marines) and a naval gunfire officer (2d ANGLICO Airborne). He earned Navy Master Parachutist wings, the Navy Achievement Medal, the Korea Defense Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, Zimbabwean Army parachute wings, the State Department Superior Honor Medal, and other awards. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from Carnegie Mellon University, a Master's Degree in Military Studies from Marine Corps University, and is currently a PhD candidate in South Asian History at the George Washington University in Washington, DC.

The fact that Mr. Mason “served on the CIA’s Pashtun Red Cell” is of interest. In a long (11-page) article in *U.S. News and World Report*, David Kaplan had reported on the “Red Cell” as follows: Twice each week, a top-secret report with distinctive red stripes lands on the desks of select policymakers in Washington. Called the “Red Cell,” it is the work of a CIA unit by the same name, set up after the 9/11 attacks to think “outside the box.” “Some of it is really wacky, even scary,” says an insider. “Like bombing Iran.” The “Red Cell,” in a very real sense, is emblematic of the trouble the U.S. intelligence community finds itself in today. Its reports, in-house critics say, are getting stale. “There’s not a lot of young blood,” an analyst says, “and there’s not enough turnover.”

In the light of this background the fact that Mr. Mason admits to having “served on” the C.I.A. Red Cell is not without significance. Further, the revelation that there was a “Pashtun Red Cell” raises questions about what kind of “outside the box” thinking Mr. Mason and his friends have been engaged in on the Pashtuns? If bombing Iran was not off the table for Red Cell thinkers, then certainly creating Pashtunistan (or balkanising Pakistan) would not be off the agenda either.

Mr. Mason’s close links to the intelligence community are plainly spelt out in his speaker’s introduction at a Jamestown Foundation event (on “Waziristan and the Uzbeks”) held on 6 June 2007:

While at the State Department, he worked closely with the intelligence community on a number of classified projects involving tribal mapping and the tribes of Afghanistan and the FATA, and served on the CIA’s Pashtun Red Cell.

The introduction also states that in March 2007 Mr. Mason had visited Quetta, Peshawar and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) in Pakistan.

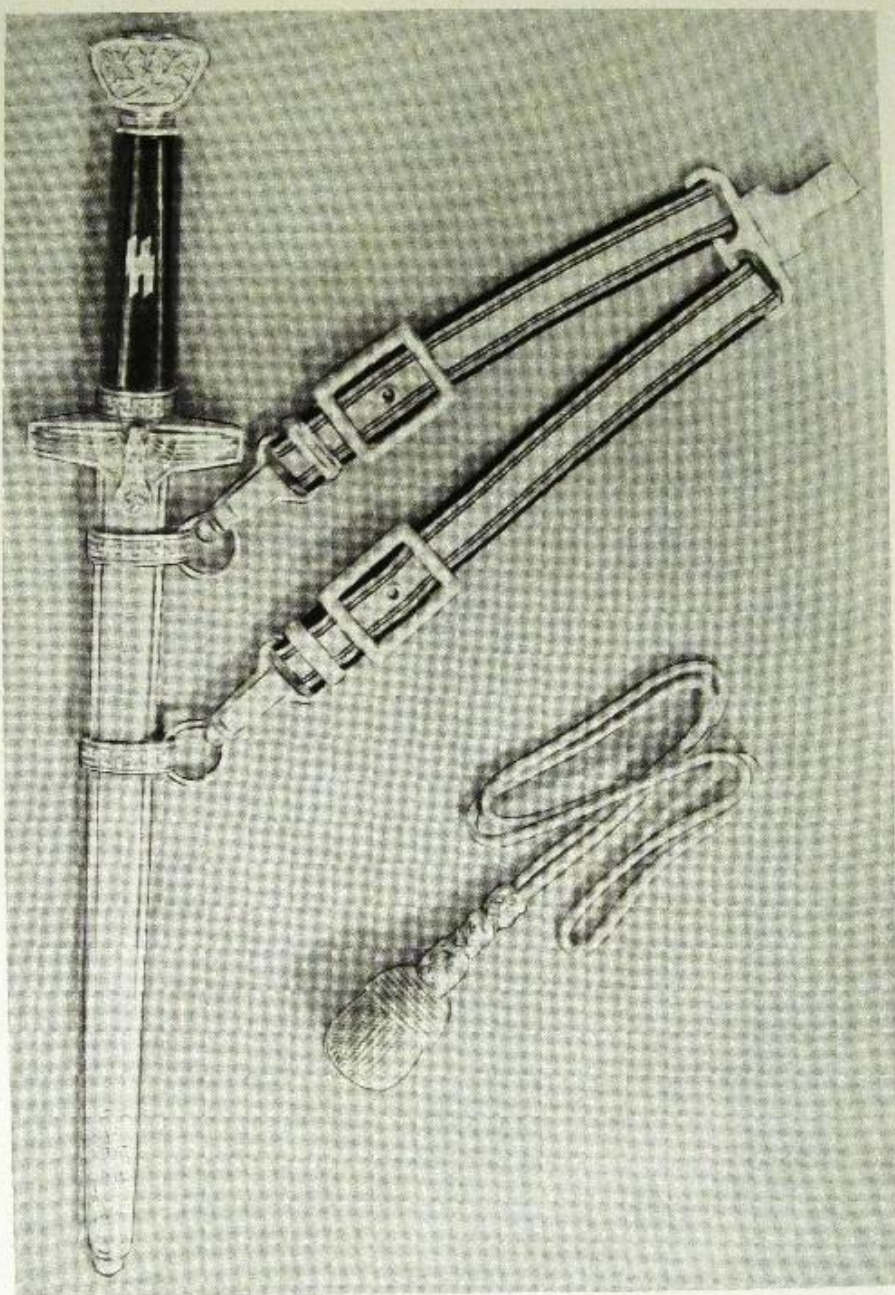
Finally, there seems to be more to the Turkish press coverage—especially in scandalising Çongor’s marriage to an American, with alleged C.I.A. links, on the one hand, and her position at the controversial *Taraf* newspaper, on the other; *Taraf* is (1) suspected of being funded by Fethullah Gülen (a moderate observant Muslim living in self-exile in the United States), and (2) accused of being staunchly pro-AKP (*Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi*, or Justice and Development Party, of the President and the Prime Minister), and (3) of being anti-military.

Newsletter for June 7, 2013, No. 108

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IM NAMEN
DES DEUTSCHEN VOLKES
VERLEIHE ICH
DEM REICHSMARSCHALL
HERMANN GÖRING
DAS GROSSKREUZ
DES EISERNEN KREUZES

FÜHRERHAUPTQUARTIER
DEN 19. JULI 1940

DER FÜHRER
UND OBERSTE BEFEHLSHABER
DER WEHRMACHT







