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11 Apr 45

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SEVENTH ARMY INTERROGATION CENTER
APO 758 US ARMY

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HIGH-RANKING GERMAN ARMY PERSONALITIES

SOURCE

VON PFUHLSTEIN, Alexander, GENMAJ a.D. (retired). Involved in the 20 July incident and imprisoned by HIMMLER, source considers himself at last out of danger and talks freely on any subject. He is anxious to cooperate with the Allies (See Report Ref No SAIC/2).

Rating: B-2 Date of Information: Beg 45 Interrogator: W.M.B.

LIST OF GERMAN ARMY PERSONALITIES

a) Field Marshals and Generals

i) Field Marshal KEITEL, GENOBST JODL, GENLT WARLIMONT - According to PW the three most important personalities in the WEHRMACHT, are well known to source. They are unscrupulous men, cowardly, lazy, unwilling to sacrifice themselves. They worship HITLER to the last and have betrayed the Army to him.

JODL - Very narrow-minded, a typical armchair general; he never realized that his orders were impossible to execute; held his unit commanders responsible for all setbacks and denounced them to HITLER; his main shortcoming was the inability to see the incompetence of HITLER as a military leader.

WARLIMONT - A good society man, knows languages fluently, a "smooth operator" (AALGLATT); if necessary he can work with people of every political belief; he has no fixed line and changes his mind very easily.

ii) VON BRAUCHITSCH, Field Marshal - Opposed to HITLER but not outspokenly anti-HITLER. He was undoubtedly suspected of sympathizing with the generals of the 20 July plot. However, he emphatically denounced the 20 July affair in a newspaper article and hailed the appointment of HIMMLER as Chief of the Replacement Army, thus saving his life.

iii) VON MANNSTEIN, Field Marshal - Probably the most gifted military leader in Germany; has no clear-cut political beliefs. Afraid to take part in the 20 July events, he now pretends that he knew nothing about them.

iv) FREIHERR VON WEICHS, Field Marshal - At heart an enemy of HITLER, he clearly recognizes the crimes which HITLER committed against the German people. Yet, against his principles and beliefs, he was the first to sign a written oath of loyalty to HITLER.

v) BUSCH, Field Marshal - Of little importance as a military personality; a typical 100% Nazi general; worships HITLER completely.

vi) VON BOCK, Field Marshal - At heart against HITLER, he is too ill with stomach trouble and too cautious to take an active part in the elimination of the FUEHRER.

vii) MODEL, Field Marshal - An evil, ambitious and characterless person, whose actions are dictated solely by his personal ambitions. He has an incredible lack of consideration for his subordinates. Worships HITLER.

viii) KESSELRING, Field Marshal - There is considerable doubt as to his military ability. ROMMEL and many other generals in Africa hated him or laughed at the military measures he took. His incredible optimism did not reflect the actual

S E C R E T

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S E C R E T

state of affairs. He sent optimistic reports regarding the situation in Africa to HITLER from ROME; the troops in Africa suffered considerably as a result of his leadership.

ix) ZEITZLER, GENOBST - Took over the post of C of S, Army High Command, full of idealism and confidence in HITLER, but within a few weeks he learned to recognize HITLER's incompetence as a military leader and his mean character. ZEITZLER was particularly shocked to find that HITLER was completely indifferent to the death and misery of hundreds of thousands of German soldiers. He hated and despised the FUEHRER, but could not bring himself to the decision to overthrow him.

b) General Staff Officers (Of GERMAN GENERAL STAFF OFFICERS, MIRS(b)/RL/haS/18/44)

Note: (*) indicates promotion known to source since publication of Seniority List of 1 May 44.

(#) indicates that the name does NOT appear in the above publication.

- i) ALDINGER, MAJ Son of Gen LADINGER who lives in FREUDENSTADT, Black Forest.
- * ii) VON BENTIVEGNI, GENMAJ Div commander. Previously he was active in the ABWEHR.
- iii) VON BILA, OBSTLT Probably Ia of a div.
- * iv) BIRCK, OBST Related to BLOMBERG. He is in the QUARTIERMEISTER ABT of an army.
- v) VON BOEHMER, OBSTLT Related to HUGENBERG; he was seriously injured on the Eastern Front and is probably no longer with a combat unit.
- # vi) TREUSCH VON BUTTLAR-BRANDENFELD, GENMAJ
 (Believed NOT to be the one on the list) Since a few years in the Army Operations Sec, Joint Operations Staff, and an important collaborator with JCCL. Very clever and well-informed about the WEHRMACHTSFUEHRUNG, he sees all its weak points and those of HITLER, but is too clever and cautious to state clearly his opinions.
- vii) BRENDL, Joachim, OBSTLT Ia in a div; an officer with no fixed political opinions.
- viii) BRUDERMUELLER, MAJ In the Army Operations Sec, Joint Operations Staff. Expert on Balkan affairs. Born in WUERZBURG, is known to have democratic ideas; his opinion of HITLER unknown.
- * ix) BUCHER, OBST Killed in 1944 on the Eastern Front where he was Regt CO.
- x) SCHULZE-BUETTGER, OBST Hanged as a result of his participation in the 20 July plot. Last assignment: Ia, Army Group SOUTH.
- xi) GRAF ZU CASTELL-CASTELL, OBSTLT Ia of a SICHERUNGS Div in the EAST. Nickname: "TOENT".

S E C R E T

- xii) COSSMAN, OBST For a long time C of S to GEN STUELPNAGEL; now C of S of a corps.
- xiii) VON GROLLMANN (Rank unknown) (NOT the one on the list) Married; has six children. Previously C of S, Second Pz Army in the Balkans; lately C of S, Army Group SOUTH, under VON WEICHS.
- xiv) VON HOBE, Heinz, OBSTLT Relative of GENOBST HALDER; probably leads the remnants of a div on the Western front.
- xv) KEITEL, MAJ Son of the Field Marshal; unimportant as a military figure; is on the General Staff Officers' list solely because of the position of his father.
- xvi) KLEIKAMP, OBST Important personality. He works in the HEERESPERSONALAMT (Army Personnel Office) and is concerned with the General Staff Officers' files.
- xvii) LAHOUSEN, GENMAJ * Austrian, active officer of the Austrian Army who was absorbed by the German Army after the occupation of Austria. Worked in ABWEHR both for the Austrian and German Armies. Lately sec chief in the ABWEHR, now CG of an inf div.
- xviii) LASSEN, Ernst August, OBST Ia to GEN WEISS, CG Second Army; probably captured in East Prussia.
- xix) VON LINSTROM, OBST Hanged because of his participation in the 20 July plot. Successor to COSSMANN, C of S to the C in C, France. His wife and two children are living in MUNICH.
- xx) BARON FREYTAG VON LORINGHOVEN, MAJ Committed suicide after the 20 July plot. Was ABWEHR sec chief. His wife and three children are living in SALZBURG.
- xxi) VON LOSSBERG, OBST Son of the well-known GENOBST VON LOSSBERG of the World War. C of S of a corps in Norway. He fell into disgrace because of some political remarks and his promotion was held back.
- xxii) NIEPOLD, OBSTLT Killed on the Eastern front in 1944.
- xxiii) GRAF VON NOSTITZ, OBST C of S of the Division Commanders' School in HIRSCHBERG.
- xxiv) OSTER, MAJ Son of GENMAJ OSTER. He is Ia of a div on the Italian front.
- xxv) PALTZO, OBST Was ABWEHRSTELLENLEITER in DRESDEN until 1939.
- xvi) RADKE, OBST In the OKH. Was HAUPTREFERENT (Chief Adviser) for Nazi indoctrination in the Army, directed the NSFO School. A confirmed Nazi, he was nevertheless suspected of having been connected with the 20 July plot. He was imprisoned for four weeks in the RSHA Prison, and then released, reportedly completely rehabilitated.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

xxvii) RAUSER, OBST	Supply expert in the QUARTIERMEISTERABT of an army group.
xxviii) REINHARDT, Hellmuth, OBST	Was C of S to Gen OLBRICHT, who had him relieved because he was not suitable for taking part in the 20 July plot. GRAF STAUFFENBERG took his place.
xxix) SASS, OBSTLT	Lately Ia of 58 Inf Div, he was seriously wounded in Russia. He lost a leg and is probably no longer in the service.
xxx) SAUERBRUCH, OBSTLT	Son of the famous physician; holder of Knights' Cross. Was for some time Ic (G-2) of Second Pz Army in the Balkans. Seen by source in the RSHA Prison, BERLIN, where he remained for a few days. Source believes, however, that SAUERBRUCH was at the Prison as witness rather than suspect.
xxxi) SCHOENE, OBST	In General Staff position in PRAGUE.
xxxii) SCHROETTER, OBSTLT	For some time in the HEERESPERSONALAMT as adviser (REFERENT) for the personnel files of the General Staff Officers' list under OBST KLEIKAMP (See xvi, above).
xxxiii) SCHWATLO-GESTERDING, OBST	Author of some military pamphlets. In 1939 Chief of ABWEHRSTELLE HANNOVER.
xxxiv) SEMPER, MAJ	In the QUARTIERMEISTERABT, OKH. Important collaborator of GENMAJ STIEF.
xxxv) SMEND, OBSTLT	Personal adjutant to ZEITZLER. Dead (Of Report Ref No SAIC/2).
xxxvi) ULMS, OBST	C of S of a corps on the Eastern Front in 1944.
xxxvii) VON VOSS, OBSTLT	Committed suicide after the 20 July plot (Of Report Ref No SAIC/2).

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Paul Kubala
PAUL KUBALA, Maj, MI, *gd*
Commanding.

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