

KV 2/410

Wilhelm Kuebart

Part II

This document constitutes: what in my perception, is relevant to be noticed (to be remembered)

My comments are always recognisable by the three colours used: Blue, Red and sometimes green

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Its purpose is for studying aspect of history

My comments in this contribution are quite frequent, because for several years I have studied this subject rather comprehensively. Therefore, considerable background information being contributed; which nowhere else can be found.

<http://www.cdvandt.org/klatt-ostro-josephine.htm>

In my perception annoying, is: the frequent, but erroneous, use of the expression "S.D." as this was organisationally, within the German context, incorrect! I suppose - that these kinds of errors, might have been introduced by "the route via the translation"; as I hardly believe, that Kuebart himself would not have been aware of the real circumstances and their implications.

For practical reasons, I have divided this contribution into several sections.

By Arthur O. Bauer

Sonderfuehrer WEISS, of Abwehr Eins, however, being an astute business man himself, discovered that in reality IVAN and JEBSEN intended to sell the navicerts to the oil firm for a large sum without the knowledge of the Germans, and that JEBSEN was the one of the two who had concocted this scheme. This information was subsequently confirmed by a report from BRANDES in Portugal.

Some time in March 1944, BRANDES visited WEISS and KUEBART in Berlin, reporting that JEBSEN had arranged to bribe both himself (BRANDES) and WREDE with a share of the profits of the scheme, were it to be successful.

BRANDES further informed KUEBART that an acquaintance of his, a Swiss named BUERKHARDT, was travelling to England on economic matters, and might be willing to "look into" any matters submitted to him. As a result, HANSEN provided the following questionnaire:-

- (a) The result (sic) of the Tehran Conference of Nov. 1943.
- (b) Relations of the Allies towards one another.
- (c) The invasion and whether this was likely to take place.
- (d) The Allied attitude and opinion regarding their plans for a new Europe after the war.

BRANDES further hinted that he might be able to establish fresh contacts in England in the future.

(A report on this questionnaire was sent by BUERKHARDT later. It was listed on the contents of a post bag dispatched to Mossen by BRANDES, but could not be found therein, and KUEBART presumes that it was either lost or stolen.)

KUEBART now became alive to JEBSEN's whole scheme, in which even WREDE now appeared to be implicated, for he had failed to reveal to KUEBART, JEBSEN's attempt to bribe him.

At the beginning of April 1944, JEBSEN was ordered by the Abwehr to report to Biarritz, but the latter replied that he was unwilling to do this on account of "cover difficulties", asserting that if he went to Biarritz his contact with the Abwehr might receive undue publicity. (KUEBART claims that this was ridiculous as, of course, JEBSEN was already known in Lisbon to have had Abwehr contacts.)

BRANDES then reported that JEBSEN had told him that he (JEBSEN) had no intention of going to Biarritz, and on the contrary intended to desert. The receipt of this news provoked considerable excitement in Abwehr circles and the situation was discussed with HANSEN. The latter said that JEBSEN's desertion had to be prevented at all costs, for were it to take place, the S.D. would "pounce" on the Abwehr as they had done after the VEREHRLEN incident.

Moreover, HANSEN told KUEBART that such an action by the S.D. might put an end to schemes he was already concocting for the liquidation of HITLER and HIMMLER, and the ultimate overthrow of the Nazi party (which schemes finally culminated in the events of July 20 and are described hereinafter; it suffices to mention at this stage

Sonderführer (Sdf.) Weiss (Kuebart's assistant), of Abwehr Eins, being an astute business man himself, discovered that in reality Ivan (Iwan) (the Yugoslavian Popov, M.I.5 Double-Cross name Trycicle) and (Johann) Jebsen intended to sell the navicerts to the oil firm for a large sum with the knowledge of the Germans, and that Jebsen was the one of the two concocted this scheme. This information was subsequently confirmed by a report of Brandes (using then the cover-name "Ballhorn" and under this name known in Lisbon and surroundings) in Portugal.

Some time in March 1944, visited Weiss and Kuebart in Berlin, reporting that Jebsen had arranged to bribe both himself (Hans Brandes, alias Ballhorn) and Wrede with a share of the profits of the scheme, were it to be successful.

Brandes further informed Kuebart that an acquaintance of his, a Swiss name Buerkhardt was travelling to England on economic matters, and might be willing to "look into" any matters submitted to him. As a result Hansen provided the following questionnaire:-

- (a) The result of the Teheran Conference of Nov. 1943 (They had got knowledge through the, for the Germans, working agent "Cicero")
- (b) Relations of the Allies towards one another.
- (c) The invasion and whether this likely to take place.
- (d) The Allied attitude and opinion regarding their plans for a new Europe after war.

Brandes further hinted that he might be able to establish fresh contacts in England in the future.

(A report on this questionnaire was sent y Buerkhardt later. It was listed onto the content of a post bag dispatched to Zosen by Brandes, but could not be found therein, and Kuebart presumes that was either lost or stolen) (AOB, maybe removed by British Secret Service)

Kuebart now became alive to Jebsen's whole scheme in which even Wrede now appeared to be implicated, for he had failed to reveal to Kuebart, Jebsen's attempt to bribe him.

At the beginning of April 1944, Jebsen was ordered by the Abwehr to report to Biarritz, but the latter replied that he was unwilling to this on account of "cover difficulties", asserting that he went to Biarritz his contact with the Abwehr might receive undue publicity. (Kuebart claims that this was ridiculous as, of course, Jebsen was already known in Lisbon to have had Abwehr contacts). (AOB, Jebsen thought himself in Lisbon outside German jurisdiction, that may have been the main reason to settle just there)

Brandes then reported that Jebsen had told him (Brandes alias Ballhorn) that he (Jebsen) had no intention of going to Biarritz, and on the contrary intended to desert. The receipt of this news provoked considerable excitement in the Abwehr circles and the situation was discussed with Hansen. The latter said that Jebsen's desertion had to be prevented at all

costs, for where it to take place, the S.D. would "pounce" on the Abwehr as they had done after the Vermehren incident.

Moreover, Hansen told Kuebart that such an action by the S.D. might put an end to schemes he was already concocting for the liquidation of Hitler and Himmler, and the ultimate overthrow of the Nazi party (which schemes finally culminated in the events of July 20 and are described hereinafter; it suffices to mention at this stage that it was sometime.. KV 2/410-1, page 50

that it was some time in the course of March 1944 that HANSEN had begun to instruct KUEBART in the details of his machinations against the German regime.)

It was now decided that KUEBART should proceed to Biarritz to meet there Major SCHREIBER of Eins Heer Lisbon, and discuss the situation with regard to JEBSEN, since both SCHREIBER and the K.O. were completely ignorant of the real situation.

Before leaving for Biarritz, HANSEN instructed KUEBART to look into the matter of any possible difficulties arising out of CANARIS' order to the K.O. Madrid to vacate their offices in their Embassy premises and to set up elsewhere on their own, as mentioned above.

That it was some time in the course of march 1944 that Hansen had begun to instruct Kuebart in the details of his machinations against the German regime,)

It was now decided that Kuebart should proceed to Biarritz to meet Major Schreiber of Eins Heer (I H) Lisbon, and discuss the situation with regard to Jebesen, since both Schreiber and the K.O. were completely ignorant of the real situation.

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TRIP TO SPAIN

In the beginning of April 1944, KUEBART and WEISS left by air for Biarritz, where they put Major SCHREIBER of K.O. Lisbon in the picture as to JEBSEN and his confederates.

SCHREIBER was very surprised as he had no idea of the real situation. KUEBART then passed on to SCHREIBER, HANSEN's order that JEBSEN was to be arrested and abducted forthwith. SCHREIBER, however, did not know how this action could be taken and was in great doubt concerning the difficulties of transporting JEBSEN out of Spain. It was therefore decided to continue the discussions with the K.O. Madrid.

Trip to Spain.

In the beginning of April 1944, Kuebart and Weiss left by air for Biarritz, where they put Major (Dr. Aloys) Schreiber of K.O Lisbon in the picture as to Jebesen and his confederates.

Schreiber was very surprised as he had no idea of the real situation. Kuebart then passed to Schreiber, Hansen's order that Jebsen was to be arrested and abducted forthwith, Schreiber, however, did not know how this action could be taken and was in great doubt concerning the difficulties of transporting Jebsen out of Spain. It was therefore decided to continue the discussions with K.O. Madrid.

MEANS OF ABDUCTION:

In the course of May 1944, KUEBART received a full report from SCHREIBER (later confirmed by BRANDES) of the means by which JEBSEN's abduction was perpetrated. Apparently SCHREIBER had summoned JEBSEN and a friend of his, one MOLDENHAUER, to the K.O. Lisbon. (KUEBART professes to know little about MOLDENHAUER. He believes him to be the son of a statesman and to have been employed as a V-man for I Wi.

KUEBART claims not to know the exact details of what followed, but both JEBSEN and MOLDENHAUER were inserted in a large box or trunks made up to resemble diplomatic luggage, and driven over the frontier without incident, to Biarritz.

No direct orders had been given for MOLDENHAUER's abduction, and owing to the latter's civilian status, KUEBART considers SCHREIBER exceeded his scope. However, MOLDENHAUER was understood to be in the conspiracy relating to JEBSEN's desertion.

KUEBART further discussed with KLEINBOCH and ROHRSCHIEDT, as instructed by HANSEN, their difficulties resulting from the K.O.'s removal from their former Embassy offices, but learned that ROHRSCHIEDT had arranged with the German Embassy for their new premises to receive diplomatic immunity and protection.

Means of abduction:

In the course of May 1944, Kuebart received a full report from Schreiber (later confirmed by Brandes ([Ballhorn](#))) of the means by which Jebsen's abduction was prepared. Apparently Schreiber had summoned Jebsen and a friend of his, one Moldenhauer (AOB, it was Jebsen who asked him to join him (Moldenhauer) during his visit at the K.O.P office in Lisbon) Kuebart (Moldenhauer himself an agent of Nest Cologne; like Jebsen, was finding his way, to not become engaged in Abwehr matters as less as possible; they both were suspected subjects)

Kuebart claims not to know the exact details of what followed, (but both Jebsen and Moldenhauer were after abduction and being drugged) (Kuebart claims not to know details of what followed, but both Jebsen and Moldenhauer were inserted in a large box or trunks made up to resemble diplomatic luggage, and driven over the (Portuguese/Spanish and thereafter the Spanish/French frontier and reached Biarritz without delay).

No direct orders (bear in mind: that Jebsen asked Moldenhauer to join him during his visit to the K.O. Lisbon office; **Moldenhauer was not involved at all**) had been given for Moldenhauer, (as no one have counted with the unexpected appearance of Moldenhauer at the scene).

However, Moldenhauer was understood to be in the conspiracy relating to Jebsen's desertion. (AOB, which was not the truth: Moldenhauer like did Jebsen, wanted to stay as far as possible out of the centres of German controlled troubles. Moldenhauer had

managed to come to Madrid, but his masters in Cologne, where he belonged to, forced him to return, but he managed to move even further away and went to Lisbon).

Kuebart further discussed with Kiekenbusch (Obstltl. Leiter Referat I, K.O. Sp.) and Rohrscheidt. (K.O. Sp. In Madrid) as instructed by Hansen, their difficulties resulting for the K.O.'s removal from their former Embassy offices, but learned that Rohrscheidt (Obstlt. von Leiter III K.O.Sp.) had arranged with the German Embassy for their new premises to received diplomatic immunity and protection. (this matured, but in a different timely sequence)

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HOLIDAY IN BARCELONA:

After about four days in Madrid, KUEBART and WEISS continued on to Barcelona, mainly for the purpose of enjoying a few days rest, actually spending three days there in all. He did, however, see Major TABORSKI of Eins Heer West Barcelona, going out with him.

The latter reported that the R. Netz was in the course of being set up. During this stay, KUEBART received a letter from Madrid from KIEKENBUSCH stating that he had discovered that MAGO, the paymaster of K.O. Madrid was trying to get his wife and daughter to Spain as soon as possible, a circumstance he considered prima-facie suspicious.

KUEBART accordingly at once advised HANSEN by telegram to delay their departure until his (KUEBART's) return to Berlin.

RETURN TO BERLIN:

KUEBART and WEISS left Barcelona by car for Perpignan from whence they went by rail to Berlin, but owing to the difficulties of the journey they did not arrive in the latter city until the end of April. Awaiting KUEBART in Berlin was a telegram from Biarritz announcing that SCHREIBER had at last got JENSEN there. HANSEN, to whom KUEBART had reported fully on his journey, ordered KUEBART to instruct the Ast Bordeaux to send JENSEN to Berlin. This order was duly executed.

MEANS OF ABDUCTION:

In the course of May 1941 KUEBART received a full report from SCHREIBER (later confirmed by BRUNOIS) of the means by which JENSEN's abduction was perpetrated. Apparently SCHREIBER had summoned JENSEN and a friend of his, one MOLDENHAUER, to the K.O. Lisbon. (KUEBART professes to know little about MOLDENHAUER. He believes him to be the son of a statesman and to have been employed as a V-man for I Wi.

KUEBART claims not to know the exact details of what followed, but both JENSEN and MOLDENHAUER were inserted in a large box or trunks made up to resemble diplomatic luggage, and driven over the frontier without incident, to Biarritz.

No direct orders had been given for MOLDENHAUER's abduction, and owing to the latter's civilian status, KUEBART considers SCHREIBER exceeded his scope. However, MOLDENHAUER was understood to be in the conspiracy relating to JENSEN's desertion.

Holiday in Barcelona (code-name Banca)

After about four days in Madrid, Kuebart and Weiss continued onto Barcelona, mainly for the purpose of enjoining a few days' rest, actually spending three days there in all. He did, however, Major Taboschat of Eins Heer West Barcelona, going out with him.

The latter reported that the R-Netz ([stay-behind](#)) During this stay, Kuebart received a letter from Madrid from Kiekenbusch stating that he had discovered that Pago ([the Paymaster](#)), of the K.O. Madrid was trying to get his wife and daughter to Spain as soon as possible, a circumstance he considered prima facie suspicious. (AOB, [after all it turns out to be not suspicious at all](#))

Kuebart accordingly at once advised Hansen by telegram to delay their departure until his (Kuebart's) return to Berlin.

Return to Berlin.

Kuebart and Weiss left Barcelona by car for Perpignan from whence they went by rail to Berlin, but owing to difficulties of the journey they did not arrive in the latter city until the end of April. Awaiting Kuebart in Berlin was a telegram from Biarritz announcing that Schreiber had at last got Jebesen there. (AOB, [from Biarritz both Jebesen and Moldenhauer had been flown to Berlin](#)). Hansen, to whom Kuebart had reported fully on his journey, ordered Kuebart to instruct the Ast ([Nest?](#)) to send Jebesen ([and Moldenhauer](#)) to Berlin. This order was duly executed. (AOB, [foregoing in Biarritz, there was held a conference, as to assure that Jebesen would be charged on behalf of the Wehrmacht as, otherwise, the S.D. could have arrested him; whereas now Wehrmacht legislation should prevail; this was valid up to the moment of Keitel's directive to hand-over both men onto the S.D. \(Amt IV\)! The complication was, that Jebesen was already suspected by the S.D. for a complex of malversations](#))

Means of Abduction:

In the course of May 1944, Kuebart received a full report Schreiber ([KOP](#)) (later confirmed by Brandes) of the means by which Jebesen's abduction perpetrated. Apparently Schreiber had summoned Jebesen and a friend of his (AOB, [not according to my information: Jebesen was summoned to appear on 1900 hrs at the K.O. Lisbon Office. This hour had been chosen, as there were no office employees in the building; hence, that Moldenhauer had become engaged was due to Jebesen's precautions, "with two men standing more save then as a single person"](#))

Kuebart claims not to know ([ask Schreiber](#)) the exact details of what followed but both Jebesen and Moldenhauer ([after being drugged](#)) were inserted in a large box or trunks made resemble diplomatic luggage, and were driven over the frontiers ([Portugal-Spain and Spain-French](#)) without incident, to Biarritz.

No direct orders had been given for Moldenhauer's abduction and owing to the latter's civilian status ([untrue as Moldenhauer was officially ruled by Nest Cologne, but stayed, against Cologne's directives in Madrid and Lisbon](#)) Kuebart considers Schreiber exceeded his scope. However, Moldenhauer was understood to be in the conspiracy relating to Jebesen's desertion. (AOB, [Jebesen was an M.I.5 Double-Cross agent, code-name Artist, and Moldenhauer was only one preventing himself to be placed near to the front lines](#)) (AOB, [by the way: Moldenhauer ultimately survived the war, albeit ending-up at Concentration Camp Sachsenhausen, where also Jebesen stayed; but who was taken away by an SS man, in February 1945. And, since being considered lost, and declared dead in 1950](#))



DISPOSAL OF JEBSEN
AND MOLDENHAUER:

On arrival in Berlin JEBSEN and MOLDENHAUER were detained under military arrest at Wuensdorf, near Zossen. HANSEN made arrangements for their interrogation by Z (R) ^{legal} experts, but some ten days later under direct orders of General KEITEL, they were handed over to the S.D. KUEBART claims not to know their ultimate fate, but thinks that JEBSEN "had it coming to him" as when he had previously worked for the S.D. he had been guilty of improperly converting S.D. monies to his own use. KUEBART claims that at the time when KEITEL's order was received, he did his best to place difficulties in the way of JEBSEN being handed over, claiming that it was entirely a military matter and had nothing to do with the S.D. HANSEN supported him in this. No argument was put forward for the retention of MOLDENHAUER.

KUEBART is at pains to point out that he was in no way responsible for the decisions taken regarding the disposal of these two men since HANSEN alone could give a valid decision regarding "disciplinary matters".

(Later, in August 1944, as will be seen, after KUEBART's arrest by the Gestapo, he was interrogated as to why he had placed difficulties in the way of the S.D. in connection with the transfer of JEBSEN).

Disposal of Jebesen and Moldenhauer:

On arrival in Berlin Jebesen and Moldenhauer were detained under military arrest at Wuensdorf, near Zossen. Hansen made arrangements to their interrogation by Z (Amt VI Z (R) legal experts, but some ten days later under direct orders Feldmarschall Keitel, they were handed over to the S.D. ("Gestapo" Müller's branch Amt IV). Kuebart claims not to know their ultimate fate, but thinks that Jebesen: had it coming to him" as when he had previously worked for the S.D. ha had been guilty of improperly converting S.D. monies to his (Jebesen's) own use. Kuebart claims that at the time when Keitel's order was received, he did his best to place difficulties in the way of Jebesen being handed over, claiming that it was entirely a military matter and had nothing to do with the S.D. Hansen supported him in this. No argument was put forward for thee retention of Moldenhauer. (AOB, Hansen at that time had replaced Canaris' Amtschef function)

Kuebart is at pains out that he was in no way responsible for the decisions taken regarding the disposal of these two men since Hansen alone could give a valid decision regarding "disciplinary matters".

(Later, in August 1944, as will be seen, after Kuebart's arrest by the Gestapo, (he was arrested on 22 July at Belinde, in respect to his eventual involvements with the assassination attempt on Hitler of 20th July 1944), he was interrogated as to why he had placed difficulties in the way of the S.D. (Amt IV) in connection (Jebesen) with the transfer. (In Biarritz it was just discussed - as to prevent that the politically driven S.D. would taking charge of what they considered was a purely military matter. Which actually it was not entirely, as Jebesen was involved, among other matters, in illegal money transfers, which constituted a criminal offence)

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VISIT OF FIDRMUCZ
TO BERLIN:

Some time in April 1944, either before or after KUEBART's trip to Spain, FIDRMUCZ came on leave to Berlin. KUEBART insists that this was the sole reason for his coming there. His leave had previously been put off and had been approved for that time. KUEBART met FIDRMUCZ twice:

- a) in Potsdam for lunch. Present were also FIDRMUCZ's wife, CARNAP (the Abwehr officer running FIDRMUCZ) and KUEBART. This meeting was a social one and no service matters were discussed.
- b) At a social evening at HANSEN's home at Rangsdorf: present were KUEBART, and HANSEN and FIDRMUCZ, with their respective wives.

Again only social matters were discussed, but it may have been on this occasion that HANSEN gave him the Iron Cross (Class 2). However, KUEBART is uncertain as to this and also points out that it is quite possible that during FIDRMUCZ's stay in Berlin he had service discussions with CARNAP. He is also aware that in the course of his leave, FIDRMUCZ conducted his own private affairs in Hamburg and Vienna.

Visit of Fidrmuc to Berlin:

Some time in April, either before or after Kuebart's trip to Spain, Fidrmuc came on leave to Berlin. (AOB, it is not entirely like this. Fidrmuc did not have holidays outside the Iberian Peninsula, since he arrived in Portugal, early 1941. He was told that he would receive a military decoration, which he first refused to accept, as he did not serve in military matters. Him was told that his refusal was unacceptable. They finally found a way giving the Kriegsverdienstkreuz (K.V.K. 2nd Class) He wished to visit central Europe for various reasons, and this was a good chance to hand him out the K.V.K.. His trip was in the course of May 1944. He was invited in Hansen's former residence, because the family had moved to Michelau, just north of Coburg, Bavaria. Hansen's house in Rangsdorf (Grenzweg 1) was still owned by him, and sometimes used for special occasions, like Fidrmuc's visit to Berlin) Kuebart insists that this was the sole reason for his coming there. His leave had previously been put off and had been approved for the time.

a) in Potsdam for lunch. Present were also Fidrmuc's wife (of Danish descent), Oblt. Von Carnap (Skarupa) (the Abwehr officer of I H Ost running Fidrmuc) and Kuebart. This meeting was a social one and no service matters were discussed.

b) At a social evening in Hansen's house at Rangsdorf present were Kuebart, and Hansen, and Fidrmuc (Ostro) with their respective wives. But it may have been on this occasion that Hansen gave him the Iron Cross (EK II) (the decoration Auszeichnung) (Which Fidrmuc refused at first) Kuebart is uncertain as to this and also points out that it is quite possible that during Fidrmuc's stay in Berlin he had service discussions with von Carnap. He is also aware that in the course of his leave conducted his own private affairs in Hamburg (where the family of his wife lived) and Vienna (nearer to the area where Fidrmuc originated from) (It is certain, however, that Fidrmuc must have been back in Lisbon at least at the end

of May 1944. Why I know this so certain? Because Fidrmuc (Ostro) conveyed a striking W/T information to Berlin on 3rd June 1944, giving rather significant information on the D-Day operations. Consequently, his assassination was even discussed within a Double-Cross Committee meeting! The R.S.S. intercept and decrypt got Isk 100131. This striking message was even considered by Margret Thatcher's cabinet in early 1986! For further information please consider: <http://www.cdvandt.org/klatt-ostro-josephine.htm> Chapter II.)

KV 2/410-1, page 52 + 53 notice also the foregoing: KV 2/410-1, page 29-30

K.O. Madrid Paymaster:

In early or the middle of May 1944, HANSEN summoned PAGO to Berlin following the latter's attempts to get his wife and daughter to Spain. He was interviewed by both HANSEN and KUEBART, who after a brief investigation, decided that there would be no harm in permitting him to return to Spain.

After PAGO's return to Spain HANSEN sent down an auditor to look into the K.O.'s accounts but these were found to be in order.

K.O. Madrid Paymaster:

In early or middle of May 1944, Hansen summoned Pago (K.O. Sp. paymaster in Madrid) to Berlin following the latter's attempt to get his wife and daughter to Spain. He was interviewed by both Hansen and Kuebart, who after a brief investigation, decided that there would be no harm in permitting him to return to Spain.

After Pago's return to Spain Hansen sent down an auditor to look in the K.O.'s accounts but there were found to be in order.

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WREDE SUMMONED
TO BERLIN:

At about the same period in the beginning or middle of May, Sdf. WREDE was summoned to Berlin and interrogated by Sdf. WEISS, who taxed WREDE with his failure to admit JEBSEN's attempt to bribe him. WREDE confessed that he had not revealed this, and after a certain amount of discussion with HANSEN, who wished to avoid any further trouble over this whole question, WREDE was sent back to Paris.

(As will be seen later, KUEBART's failure to have WREDE arrested, was brought up against him during his subsequent trial before the People's Court in connection with the events of July 20 1944.)

Wrede Summoned to Berlin: (he was involved in the illegal dealings of Jebesen and Popov (Iwan))

At about the same period in the beginning or middle of May, who Sdf. Wrede was summoned to Berlin and interrogated by Sdf. Weiss (Kuebart's assistant; who brought the entire raw in move, ending up with Jebesen's abduction and death), who taxed Wrede with his failure to admit Jebesen's attempt to bribe him. Wrede confessed that he had not revealed this, and after a certain amount of discussions with Hansen, who wished to avoid any further trouble over this whole question, Wrede was sent back to Paris.

(As will be seen later, Kuebart's failure to have Wrede arrested, was brought up against him during his subsequent trial before the People's Court (Volksrichtshof) in connection with the events of July 20 1944)

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ABWEHR CONFERENCE
IN SALZBURG:

On May 12 or 13 1944, KUEBART attended the Abwehr conference at Salzburg. From the Abwehr offices went, inter-alia:-

HANSEN,
KLEYENSTÜBER,
OHLETZ,
GARTMANN, and
BOHLEN.

The conference was attended by various high-up officials of Abwehr I, II and III, with the exception of those from neutral K.O.s, and had been called by HIMMLER in order to meet the Abwehr and introduce his policy of conversion into one united Intelligence Service.

KUEBART recalls the following speakers:-

1) Von SCHELLENBERG:

Spoke of the objects of an intelligence service, and held out the British Intelligence Service as a target of efficiency to be aimed at.

2) Chef de Gestapo MUELLER (Amt IV).

Spoke of Eastern questions, but did not make a very favourable impression upon KUEBART.

3) Ostuf. STIMMEL:

Spoke on the political stand-point of Spain.

4) Ostuf. PAEFFGEN:

Spoke on England and the difficulties she was likely to encounter in an invasion, pointing out that such invasion was only too anxiously awaited by the Germans.

Abwehr Conference in Salzburg:

On May 12 or 13 (14) 1944, Kuebart attended the Abwehr Conference at Salzburg. From the Abwehr office went inter-alinea:

Hansen
Kleyenstüber
Ohletz
Gartmann, and
Bohlen.

(AOB, there attended far more Abwehr Leiters than noticed here, but also more technically orientated such as Ii (Funkleiter), such as Trautmann from Hbg, Major Baun Walli)

The conference was attended by various high up officials of Abwehr I. II and III, with the exception of those of neutral K.O.s (Is this true, I doubt?) and had been called by Himmler in order to meet the Abwehr and introduce the policy of conversion into one united Intelligence Service.

Kuebart recalls:

1) Schellenberg (Amt VI) (who shared powers with Hansen):

Spoke of the subjects of an intelligence service, and held out the British Intelligence as a target of efficiency to be aimed at.

2) Chef de Gestapo Müller (Amt IV). und des S.D.!

Spoke of Eastern questions, but did not make favourable impression upon Kuebart.

3) Obersturmbannführer Steimle:

Spoke on the political stand-point of Spain.

4) Obersturmbannführer Pfäffgen:

Spoke on England and the difficulties she was likely to encounter in an invasion, pointing out that such invasion was only too anxiously awaited by the Germans.

5) Hauptsturmführer (name unknown)

Spoke of conditions in Holland.

6) Himmler: (he spoke for more than an hour)

This Mann described how he had built up the S.S. out of “elite” troops, the success they enjoyed, the efficiency of the Waffen S.S., and his plans for one united Intelligence Service.

He put forward the extravagant claims that the frontiers of German would be extended by 500 km. to the east, and then proceeded in a somewhat naïve way to outline the duties of an intelligence officer – the sort of thing. Kuebart states, that any recruit would learn, namely:

- (i) To write good German
- (ii) To obey orders
- (III) To be reliable

Hansen told Kuebart later of Himmler’s plans for the creation of one central intelligence office dealing solely with foreign affairs; it would for instance, deal with diplomatic, economic, military, and Secret Service matters, relating to intelligence. Hansen had been invited by Himmler to put forward suggestions to this end. Kuebart, does not know, however, does not know whether such suggestions were, in fact put forward, though Hansen did not return over the questions in mind.

Ivan (Iwan):

In the middle of May 1944, Ivan ceased making any further reports, and the contact with him severed. Kuebart considers this may be the attribute to Jebsen’s disappearance. (AOB, not unlikely)

Conversion of Abwehr to S.D. (AOB, I suppose incorrect, as Ausland S.D. was ruled by Amt IV instead)

In the course of May 1944, Kaltenbrunner after discussions between Himmler and Keitel (Chef of O.K.W.) issued the following preliminary order regarding the conversion to the S.D. (AOB, I suppose this is, most likely incorrect. The S.D. mainly was a service bothered

with politically linked affairs, whereas Amt VI/Amt Mil were only involved in purely military related intelligence)

(i) The fusion of Abwehr and the S.D. was to be completed by autumn of 1944.

(ii) The Abwehr in the meantime was to be converted into the Mil Amt.

(iii) The Faks were to be handed over to the O.K.W.

(AOB, what remained within the O.K.W. were intelligence sections directly engaged in direct military operations; of which value lasted for only a few hours, maybe a bit more)

(iv) The Abwehrstellen should in future be known under the Kommandomeldegebiete (K.d.M)

(v) That officers, N.C.Os and other ranks of the Abwehr should retain their military status. (AOB, qua military involvements: most of the former Abwehr personnel stayed, administratively, with the Wehrmacht administration, for example, they paid their salaries).

(vi) That civilian members of the Abwehr should be incorporated in the S.D. (AOB, I suppose this is incorrect. They became engaged at R.S.H.A. Amt VI)

(vii) That Hansen should propose suggestions for the forming of the Mil. Amt. by the beginning of June 1944.

Regarding the FAKs, and adhoc staff of the O.K.W. was set up to administer these under the command of Obst. Von Süsskind.

I. matters were to be administered by one Obst. Rudolph (who had been previously stationed as Alst Leiter Paris) (were the latter had made a mess out of it)

From May 1944, no further orders or communication could be given by the Abwehr to the FAKs without the permission and approval of this O.K.W. staff. (Stab)

This created awkward repercussions as the newly formed staff were as yet incapable of any efficient action.

(AOB, Kuebart misses quite some names, and also the in neutral countries K.O. Leiter were attending: such as Meisner, Leiter K.O. Switzerland, but also Marogna-Redwitz Leiter Ast. Vienna (Wien). But also technical people such as: Ii Hamburg Trautmann, Ii Wien Hotzel, Maj. Poretschkin of Nachrichten Regiment 506 and quite many others) (And, also Herbert Wichmann, Leiter Ast-X (Hbg) attended)

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FURTHER VISIT OF
BRANDES TO BERLIN:

Also in May 1944, BRANDES reported to Sonderfuehrer WEISS in Berlin, possibly by order, and was asked whether the JEBSEN abduction had excited any undue comment in Portuguese circles. BRANDES replied that it had not.

BRANDES now went on to mention that he thought he might be able to set up fresh contacts in England, mentioning that a friend of his one KETTI or TETTI, an Oberstleutnant and a well-known horseman, was proceeding to England in July 1944 to take up a post as assistant to the Swiss military attache. BRANDES considered that this man might be agreeable to sending back information. KUEBART understands that BRANDES had already approached KETTI to this end, that KETTI knew something about W/T and would acquire suitable radio apparatus (by means unknown) in England.

WEISS referred the matter to KUEBART, who obtained HANSEN's agreement to the project. BRANDES then departed again to Spain after receiving 8,000 escudos reward for his good services from HANSEN.

Unknown reasons caused delay in KETTI's leaving for this country and KUEBART did not know up to the time of his own arrest on July 21, 1944, whether KETTI had left for or arrived in England.

Further Visit of Brandes to Berlin: (notice that still regular plane flights could be booked!)

Also in May 1944, Brandes reported to Sdf. Weiss in Berlin, possibly by order, and was asked whether the Jebesen abduction had excited and undue comment in Portuguese circles. Brandes replied that it had not. (in contract to inside M.I.5 and 6)

Brandes now went on to mention that he thought he might be able to set fresh contacts in England, mentioning that a friend of his one Ketti or Tetti, and Obstlt. And a well-known horseman, (xxx made invisible, meaning by: M.I.6) was proceeding to England in July 1944 to take up post as assistant to the Swiss military attaché. Brandes considered that this man might be agreeable to sending back information. Kuebart understands that Brandes had already approached Ketti to this end, and Ketti knew something about W/T and would acquire suitable radio apparatus. (means unknown in England).

Weiss referred the matter to Kuebart, who obtained Hansen's agreement to the project. Brandes then departed again to Spain (Portugal?) after receiving 8,000 escudos reward for his good services from Hansen.

Unknown reasons caused delay in Ketti's leaving for this country and Kuebart did not know up to the time of his own arrest July 21, 1944, whether Ketti had left for or arrived in England.

FURTHER PREPARATIONS FOR
THE CONVERSION OF THE
ABWEHR TO THE MIL. AMT:

HANSEN now proposed that for the purposes of this conversion, I.H., I.M. and I.L. should be divided respectively into West and East:- the divisional line to run very roughly from the East coast of Jutland down to the Gulf of Venice. Difficulties now arose as to who was to take charge of the Western division as between KLEYENSTUEBER and KUEBART. The former was really the more suitable on account of his experience and seniority in age. However, KLEYENSTUEBER was already "playing ball" with the S.D. and was rather antagonistic towards HANSEN.

It was therefore decided to put KUEBART in charge of the Western division and to send KLEYENSTUEBER down to the K.O. Madrid to take this over. LEISSNER, the existing K.O. Leiter, was however to remain there but in a subordinate capacity to KLEYENSTUEBER.

This decision was made in May 1944 and as a result in the beginning of July 1944 KLEYENSTUEBER went to Spain to take up his duties there.

Further Preparations for the Conversion of the Abwehr to the Mil. Amt:

Hansen now proposed that for the purpose of this conversation, I. H, I.M. and I.L, should be divided respectively into West and East:- the divisional line to run very roughly from the east coast of Jutland down to the Gulf of Venice. Difficulties now arose as to who was to take charge of the Western division as between Kleyenstueber and Kuebart. The transfer was really the more suitable on account of his experience and seniority in age. However, Kleyenstueber was already "playing ball" with the S.D. (S.S.) and was rather antagonistic towards Hansen.

It was therefore decided to put Kuebart in charge of the Western division and to send Kleyenstueber down to the K.O. Madrid to take over Leissner, the existing K.O. Leiter, was however, to remain there but subordinate capacity to Kleyenstueber.

This decision was made in May 1944 and as a result in the beginning of July 1944 Kleyenstueber went to Spain to take up his duties there. (which he held up to the end of the war)

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HANSEN'S PEACE DISCUSSIONS
IN SWITZERLAND:

Also in May 1944 HANSEN spent a few days in Switzerland, but said little to KUEBART as to what had occurred during his journey. KUEBART is, however, aware that HANSEN had some sort of conversations with the Allies or their intermediaries with regard to peace offers, and also contact with Polish circles through the wife of an earlier Polish military attache in Berlin, (whose name KUEBART does not know).

KUEBART professes not to know whether HANSEN went to Switzerland under secret orders or whose orders, or whether such peace proposals were received by HANSEN in Switzerland in the course of concluding some other business of his own. However, as KUEBART says, HANSEN very seldom travelled and when he did it was usually with some important objective.

Hansen's Peace Discussions in Switzerland:

Also in May 1944 (**quite a busy month!**) Hansen spent a few days in Switzerland, but said little to Kuebart as to what had occurred during his journey (**might he have met with Allen Dulles?**). Kuebart is, however, aware that Hansen had some sort of conversations with the Allies or their intermediaries with regard to peace offers. And also contact with Polish circles through the wife of an earlier Polish military attaché in Berlin, (whose name Kuebart does not know).

Kuebart professes not to know whether Hansen went to Switzerland under secret orders or whose orders, or whether such peace proposals were received by Hansen in Switzerland in the course of concluding some other business of his own. However, as Kuebart says, Hansen very seldom travelled and when he did it was usually with some important objective.

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TRIP TO SALZBURG--
CONVERSION TO MIL. AMT.

In the beginning of June KUEBART, on returning from a few days' leave which he had spent with his family at Bellinen, East Prussia, learned that HANSEN had gone to Salzburg to have discussions with General KEITEL. These discussions concerned the conversion of the Abwehr to the Mil. Amt, and KEITEL, being very subservient to the demands of the S.D., appeared to be successfully persuading HANSEN, who was very run down at the time, to give up the struggle in this regard.

KUEBART, on learning this, hastened down to Salzburg and urged HANSEN to hold out against the S.D.'s demands. HANSEN said he would fight for time, but appeared to be somewhat annoyed with KUEBART, and the latter then returned to Berlin.

Trip to Salzburg-Conversion to Mil. Amt.

In the beginning of June Kuebart, on returning from a few days' leave which he had spent with his family at Bellinen, East Prussia, (**where he originated from**), learned that Hansen had gone to Salzburg to have discussions with Keitel. These discussions concerned the conversion of the Abwehr to the Mil. Amt. and Keitel, being very subservient to the demands of the S.D. (S.D.?), appeared to be successfully persuading Hansen, who was very run down at the time, to give up the struggle in this regard.

Kuebart, on learning this, hastened down to Salzburg and urged Hansen to hold out against the S.D. demands (**Amt IV? Schellenberg Leiter Amt VI was dealing well with Hansen**) Hansen said he would fight for time, but appeared to be somewhat annoyed with Kuebart and the latter then returned

to Berlin. (Hansen might have been under increasing stress concerning the coming assassination attempt on Hitler)

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MEETING IN BARCELONA:

In the middle of June 1944, a request arrived from BRANDES asking that somebody should be sent down to Spain so that the progress he was making in his plans for sending the Swiss, KETTI, to England could be discussed. KUEBART suggested to HANSEN that WEISS should be sent down, but HANSEN decided to send KUEBART as well, and these two accordingly left by air for Barcelona, where they met in a hotel, BRANDES, Major SCHREIBER, an unknown Oberleutnant from I, i, K.O. Lisbon, and Oberstlt. KIEKENBUSCH and his wife.

At this meeting, Major SCHREIBER reported on the new Lisbon K.O. Leiter, Oberst FREDERICI, who had taken up his duties some four weeks previously. SCHREIBER said he was not too happy about the new appointment; FREDERICI supervised and interfered with his work too closely, but apart from this there was nothing new to report from the K.O., although the R. Netz continued to be built up.

KUEBART then put SCHREIBER in the picture regarding BRANDES and the new agent he was sending to England, and asked SCHREIBER to lend him any support he needed, though pointing out that KETTI was not to be run by the K.O.

KUEBART then proceeded to describe the conversion of the Abwehr into the Mil. Amt. and its division into Ost and West, the West being run by himself. He further imparted that the Abwehr would retain their military status and that, thanks to HANSEN's resistance, the K.O.'s were to continue to function independently of S.D. supervision. (HANSEN had achieved this by pleading that the two independent (S.D. and Abwehr) bodies functioning abroad would assist in deceiving and confusing the enemy intelligence services).

Meeting in Barcelona.

In the middle of June 1944, a request arrived from Brandes asking that somebody should be sent down so that the progress so that the progress he was making in his plans for sending the Swiss, Ketti, to England could be discussed, Kuebart suggested Hansen that (Sdf.) Weiss should be sent down, but Hansen decided to send Kuebart as well and these two (Kuebart + Sdf. Weiss) accordingly left by air (up to the final end of the war, there existed a regular airline connection, with the Iberian Peninsula and, for instance Berlin) for Barcelona, where they met in a hotel, Brandes, Major Schreiber, an unknown Oblt. From Ii, (cover-name Diaz?) KO Portugal and Obstlt. Kiekenbusch (Leiter I K.O. Spain) and his wife.

At this meeting, Major Schreiber reported on the new Lisbon K.O. Leiter Frederici (Friederici?), who had taken up his duties some four weeks previously. Schreiber said he was not too happy about the new appointment; Frederici supervised and interfered with his work too closely, but apart from this there was nothing new to report from K.O., although the R-Netz continued to be built up. (Sdf. Dr. Blaum)

Kuebart then put Schreiber in the picture regarding Brandes and the new and the new agent he was sending to England, and asked Schreiber to lend him any support he needed, though pointed out that Ketti was not run by the K.O.

Kuebart then proceeded to describe the conversion of the Abwehr into the Mil. Amt. and its division into Ost and West, the west being run by himself. He further imparted that the Abwehr would retain their military status and that, thanks to Hansen's resistance, the K.O. were to continue to function independently of the S.D. supervision (AOB, S.D. was Amt IV or eventually Amt V, but Mil Amt and Amt VI were bound together and its Leiter was Schellenberg) (Hansen had achieved this by pleading that the two independent ~~S.D.~~ Amt VI or name it S.S)

And the Abwehr bodies functioning abroad would assist in deceiving and confusing the enemy intelligence services.

APPOINTMENTS IN MIL. AMT.

At the end of June, KUEBART, as previously arranged, took over Abt. B. (West) of the Mil. Amt., and a certain Major (later Obstlt). OHLETZ, Abt. C. (Ost). (See plan as prepared by KUEBART appended to this report).

OHLETZ was a regular officer who had been employed at the beginning of the war as a General Staff officer on the staff of the Air Force in the East, joining Abwehr I.L. probably at the end of 1943. In the early summer of 1944, OHLETZ succeeded KLEYENSTUEBER as Gruppenleiter I, Luft.

Appointment in Mil Amt.

At the end of June, Kuebart, as previously arranged, took over Abt. B (West) of the Mil Amt and a certain Major i.G. Ohletz (Amt VI-C Ost) later Obstlt.

Ohletz was a regular officer who had been employed at the beginning of the war as a General Staff (Generalstab) officer on the staff of the GAF in the east, joining Abwehr I L probably at the end of 1943. In the early summer of 1944, Ohletz succeeded Kleyenstueber as Gruppenleiter I Luft. (Kleyenstueber became K.O. Leiter in Madrid)

TRIP TO EAST PRUSSIA
WITH OHLETZ:

In the beginning of July 1944, KUEBART, in company with OHLETZ, undertook a trip to East Prussia. OHLETZ wanted to visit Fremde Heere Ost and Stab WALLI I (the Leiterstelle) in connection with FAK Ost Russland. KUEBART himself was desirous of visiting the I.C. of the Luftwaffe Staff, as - of course - being in charge of Mil. Amt. West he was now concerned with Luftwaffe and Marine activities in addition to military matters.

This visit only took a few days, KUEBART took the opportunity of visiting his wife and family at the same time.

Trip to East Prussia with Ohletz:

In the beginning of July 1944, Kuebart, in company with Ohletz, undertook a trip to East Prussia. Ohletz wanted to visit Fremde Heere Ost (FHO might have been still at Nikolaiken) and Stab Walli I (the Funkleitstelle) also Nikolaiken) in connection with FAK Ost Russland. Kuebart himself was desirous of visiting the Ic of the Luftwaffe Staff, as - of course - being in charge of Mil Amt West he was now concerned with Luftwaffe and marine activities in addition to military matters.

This visit only took a few days. Kuebart took the opportunity of visiting his wife and family at the same time.

TRANSFER of ABWEHR to BELINDE:

While KUEBART was away on this trip the Abwehr was transferred from Zossen to Belinde, some 15 kms. distant, in the neighbourhood of Baruth.

Transfer of Abwehr to Belinde:

While Kuebart was away on his trip to the Abwehr was transferred from Zossen (there were too many personnel accumulated at Zeppelin, caused also due to their retreats in the East, the Abwehr moved out to the new premises Belinde), some 15 kms south, in the neighbourhood of Baruth.

CONVERSION OF ABWEHR INTO MIL. AMT

KUEBART points out that this process of conversion was a very slow one, and that it was extremely difficult to say when the actual change came into being. However, by the time of the move to Belinde, a serious attempt had already been made to organise in accordance with the plan as set out by KUEBART and appended to this report.

The organisation was as follows:-

<u>Mil. Amt.</u>						
Chef des Mil.Amtes			...	Oberst HANSEN		
Deputy			...	Obstlt. ENGLHORN		
<u>Abt.A.</u>	<u>Abt.B.</u>	<u>Abt.C.</u>	<u>Abt.D.</u>	<u>Abt.E.</u>	<u>Abt.F.</u>	<u>Abt.G.</u>
Obstlt. <u>ENGELHORN</u> asst'd by <u>HUEBNER</u> (Staff & admin. matters)	Obstlt. <u>KUEBART</u> (Intelligence, West: I.H. I.M. I.L.)	Obstlt. <u>OHLETZ</u> (Intelligence, East: I.H. I.M. I.L.)	Major <u>NAUMANN</u> (Sabotage)	Major <u>PORETSCHKIN</u> (Technical matters, communications, radio)	Name unknown, possibly Oberst <u>ROHLEDER</u> (Counter Intelligence, III-F)	Obstlt. <u>MUELLER</u> (False papers and documents)

Conversion of Abwehr into Mil. Amt.

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The organisation was as follows:-

<u>Mil. Amt.</u>						
Chef des Mil.Amtes				Obst Hansen		
Deputy				Obstlt. Engelhorn		
<u>Abt.A</u>	<u>Abt.B.</u>	<u>Abt.C.</u>	<u>Abt.D.</u>	<u>Abt.E.</u>	<u>Abt.F.</u>	<u>Abt.G.</u>
Obstlt. Engelhorn asst'd by Huebner Staff & adm. matters	Obstlt. Kuebart Intelligence West I H I M I L	Obstlt. Ohletz Intelligence East I H I M I L	Major Naumann Sabotage	Major Poretschkin Nachr.Reg 506 Technical Communications radio	Name unknown possibly Obst. Rohleder Counter Intelligence III-F	Obstlt. Mueller Geheim (False Papers And documents)

THE EVENTS LEADING UP TO AND IN CONNECTION WITH THE ATTEMPT ON HITLER'S LIFE ON JULY 20, 1944

Attempt in 1936.

KUEBART learned from HANSEN of an attempt by General von BRAUCHITSCH and von HALDER in 1936 to overthrow the Nazi regime. He never learned details of the plot but understands that other Army generals were to be summoned to Berlin to assist in this plan, which was, however, quashed by the intervention of General von REICHENAU. Apparently, no action was taken against the two leading generals and the matter was probably kept as a secret within military circles.

General EBERBACH

In the early autumn of 1943, a friend of KUEBART, one Hauptmann RIEDEL of a motorized recon. unit, told KUEBART of a further plot against the Nazi regime that was being organized by various unspecified leaders, one of whom was a certain General EBERBACH. KUEBART asked RIEDEL to mention to EBERBACH that he would like to be considered as at their disposal, but he heard nothing more in this connection.

Oberst Freytag von LORINGHOVEN

At more or less the same period, in the beginning of September 1943, on KUEBART's way down to Spain in company with HANSEN and CANARIS, KUEBART met on the plane from Paris to Bordeaux, a certain Oberst Freytag von LORINGHOVEN whom he knew previously as the Head of Abwehr II.

In Bordeaux they went for a walk together and after a considerable amount of hedging and sparring the conversation veered round to the

possibilities of an attempt against the HITLER regime by another group of which von LORINGHOVEN appeared to be a member. No names were mentioned to KUEBART in this connection.

In January 1944, however, KUEBART did hear from von LORINGHOVEN that some sort of attempt against the Nazi regime had been made in the course of December 1943, of the details of which he is ignorant.

Events leading up to and in connection with the attempt on Hitler's life on July 20, 1944.

Attempt in 1936.

Kuebart from Hansen of an attempt by General von Brauchitsch and von Halder in 1936 to the overthrow the Nazi regime. He never learned details of the plot but understands that other Army generals were to be summoned to Berlin to assist in this plan, which was, however, quashed by the intervention of General von Reichenau. Apparently no action was taken against the two leading generals and the matter was probably kept as a secret within the military circles.

General Eberbach.

In the early autumn of 1943, a friend of Kuebart, one Hptm. Riedel of a motorised recon. (**reconnaissance**) unit, told Kuebart of a further plot against the Nazi regime that was being organized by various unspecified leaders, one of whom was a certain general Eberbach. Kuebart asked Riedel to mention to Eberbach that he would like to be considered as at their disposal, but heard nothing more in this connection.

Obst. Wessel Freytag von Loringhoven.

At more or less the same period, in the beginning of September 1943*, on Kuebart's way down to Spain in company with Hansen and Canaris, Kuebart met on the plane from Paris to Bordeaux, a certain Obst. Freytag von Loringhoven who he knew previously as the head of Abwehr II. (he still was up the failed assassination attempt on Hitler of 20 July 1944)

* They actually left Berlin on 1 October, arrived on the 2th at Bordeaux and succeeded towards Henday/Irun on 7 October, 1943.

In Bordeaux they went on a walk together and after a considerable amount of hedging and sparring the conversation veered round to the possibilities of an attempt against the Hitler regime by another group of which von Loringhoven appeared to be a member. No names were mentioned to Kuebart in this connection.

In January 1944, however, did hear from von Loringhoven that some sort of attempt against the Nazi regime had been made in the course of December 1943, of the details of which he is ignorant. KV 2/410-1, page 62

Meetings with Hauptmann STRUENK

KUEBART was already acquainted with Hauptmann STRUENK, a former member of Abwehr III, but now in Abwehr I, engaged on special duties and attached to HANSEN personally. KUEBART recalls that he was in direct touch with the Head of the Kriminal Polizei and, moreover, periodically made visits to Switzerland, the purpose of which is unknown to him.

In the last days of February 1944, STRUENK paid KUEBART a visit when they discussed the political situation generally. They both agreed that something ought to be done to remedy the situation.

In the beginning of March 1944, KUEBART had a further meeting with STRUENK at his flat (the address of which is unknown to KUEBART, but it was in the cellar of SCHMIDT's house).

They now "got down to brass tacks", STRUENK admitting that he was mixed up in a plot to overthrow the Nazi regime and revealing, in addition, that HANSEN was also involved.

Meetings with Hptm. Stuenk.

Kuebart was already acquainted with Hptm. Stuenk, a former member of Abwehr III, but now in Abwehr I, engaged on special duties and attached to Hansen personally. Kuebart recalls that he was in direct touch with the head of the (Berlin) Kriminal Polizei (Graf von Helldorf) and, moreover, periodically made visits to Switzerland, the purpose of which is unknown to him.

In the last days of February 1944, Stuenk paid Kuebart a visit when they discussed the political situation generally. They both agreed that something ought to be done to remedy the situation.

In the beginning of March 1944, Kuebart had a further meeting with Stuenk at his flat (address unknown to Kuebart, but it was in the cellar of Schacht's house) (former Präsident der Reichsbank) (https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hjalmar_Schacht)

They now "got down to brass tacks", Stuenk admitting that he was mixed up in a plot to overthrow the Nazi regime and revealing, in addition, that Hansen was also involved.

Discussion with HANSEN

Soon afterwards, KUEBART went to see HANSEN and discussed the whole question with him. HANSEN was rather on his guard in dealing with KUEBART as he was aware of the latter's propensities for self-enjoyment and felt that he might "blabber in his cups".

In the course of his conversation, HANSEN mentioned that he considered STRUENK rather unreliable.

Further Conversations with HANSEN and Attempt on HITLER's Life

At about the end of March or beginning of April 1944, KUEBART frequently had meetings with HANSEN, criticising the state of affairs in Germany and saying that HANSEN was the man to put things right. HANSEN now directly and for the first time admitted his implication in the plot, but would only give KUEBART a few isolated details, and the latter, seeing the necessity for secrecy, did not press him for further particulars.

In May 1944, HANSEN told KUEBART that he had arranged for someone (unknown) to place some British-manufactured explosives (type unknown) in an aircraft in which HITLER was to fly. For some unknown reason, the explosive failed to detonate and the attempt failed.

Discussions with Hansen.

Soon afterwards, Kuebart went to see Hansen and discussed the whole question with him. Hansen was rather on this guard (*waltete Vorsicht*) in dealing with Kuebart as he was aware of the latter's propensities for self-enjoyment and felt that he might "blabber in his (*Hansen's*) cups".

In the course of his conversation, Hansen mentioned that he considered Struenk rather unreliable.

Further Conversations with Hansen and Attempt on Hitler's Life.

About the end of March or beginning of April 1944, Kuebart frequently had meetings with Hansen, criticising the stage of affairs in Germany and saying that Hansen was the man to put things right. Hansen now directly and for the first time (*zum ersten Mal*) admitted his implication in the plot, but would only give Kuebart a few isolated details, and the latter seeing the necessity for secrecy, did not press him for further particulars.

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Participants

In the course of about May 1944, KUEBART learned from Berlin the following names of participants in the plot:

General Oberst a.D. BECK
General OLBRIGHT

HASSELL - a diplomat and previously German Ambassador in Rome

GOEDDLER - Reichspreisueberwachungskommissar and formerly Oberbuergemeister of Leipzig.

HANSEN outlines his aims

After his return from Switzerland some time in the month of May 1944, HANSEN outlined the aims of his plot to KUEBART as follows:

- 1) The overthrow and complete elimination of the Nazi regime and all its legal consequences
- 2) The creation of a proper democratic state

HANSEN mentioned to KUEBART that he considered the mentality of the German peoples at that time unsuitable for the establishment of their own independent democratic state, for the Germans had become too warped and deprived of their capabilities for democratic self-decision by the influence of the Nazi regime. He put forward his own view that it would best suit Germany to adopt the status of a British Dominion.

At the same time HANSEN mentioned that he had received, through an intermediary, a message from General EISENHOWER, asking whether a peaceable solution to hostilities might not be found. What reply HANSEN had given to this offer in Switzerland is not within KUEBART's knowledge, yet HANSEN did complain to KUEBART that he did not see what he could do, as it would cost him as much as his life was worth to pass this suggestion on to the Nazi authorities, with whom - in any case - the Allies would not treat.

Participants.

In the course of about May 1944, Kuebart learned from Berlin the following names of participants in the plot:

General Obst. A.D. Bock

General Olbricht

Hassell Ulrich von A diplomat and previously German Ambassador in Rome

Goerdeler Reichspreisueberwachungungskommissar formerly

Oberbuergemeister of Leipzig.

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2) The creation of a proper democratic state

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At the same time Hansen mentioned that he had received through an intermediary, a message from General Eisenhower, asking whether a peaceable solution to the hostilities might not be found. What reply Hansen had given to this offer in Switzerland is not within Kuebart's knowledge, yet Hansen did complain to Kuebart that he did not see what he could do, as it would cost him as much as his life was worth to pass this suggestion onto the Nazi authorities, with whom – in any case – would not treat.

Further activities by HANSEN

In June 1944, KUEBART noticed that HANSEN was showing little interest for service matters, but was instead paying frequent visits to Berlin for discussions with BECK, OLBRIGHT, and - as he later learned - a certain Oberst Graf von STAUFFENBERG. HANSEN also enjoyed discussions with economic experts who complained that the Nazi regime had completely ruined German economics, to which HANSEN had retorted that it was they who had themselves to blame, since they had assisted in the Nazis' support in the early "Party days".

Further conversations with HANSEN

On the evening of July 1, 1944, KUEBART had a long conversation with HANSEN at the latter's home. HANSEN remarked that they would not have very much longer to wait, and on this occasion made his first mention of the name of von STAUFFENBERG. This last officer had been employed on the administrative side of the Army and had been I.A. of a division in North Africa where he had lost an arm, an eye and a couple of fingers. On his return from Africa, he had become Chief of Staff to General OLBRIGHT with the rank of Oberstleutnant.

At the same meeting HANSEN warned KUEBART that in the event of Amt. VI of the R.S.H.A. being in Zossen on the day of the attempt, KUEBART, with the help of ENGELHORN, OHLETZ and others, was to take measures to arrest them.

HANSEN added that he was taking steps to try to move the Abwehr

to Belinde from Zossen, and in this he later proved successful.

Further activities by Hansen.

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completely ruined German economics, to which Hansen had retorted that it was they who themselves had to blame, since they had assisted in the Nazis' support in the early "Party days".

Further conversations with Hansen.

On the evening of July 1, 1944, Kuebart had a long conversation with Hansen at the latter's home. (at Rangsdorf, albeit, Hansen's family did no longer resided there) Hansen remarked that they would that they would not have very much longer to wait, and on this occasion made his first mention of the name of von Stauffenberg. This last officer had been employed on the administrative side of the Army and had been Ia (officer for operations) of a division in North Africa where he lost an arm, an eye and a couple of fingers. On his return from Africa (actually Tunisia, 1943), he had become Chief of Staff to General Olbricht with the rank of Obstlt.

At the same meeting Hansen warned Kuebart that in the event of Amt VI (Leiter Schellenberg) of the R.S.H.A. being in Zossen on the day of the attempt, Kuebart, with the help of Engelhorn, Ohletz and others, was to take measures to arrest them.

Hansen added that he was taking steps to try to move the Abwehr to Belinde from Zossen (Zeppelin) and in this proved successful.

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Sequence of Events to July 20, 1944.

July 5 (Wednesday): This day was HANSEN's birthday, and somewhat late in the evening after a good deal of celebration, HANSEN likewise put GILLET in the picture regarding his plans.

July 12 (Wednesday): KUEBART sought permission on this day from HANSEN to fetch his family from Bollinon, East Prussia, but HANSEN refused to allow this, saying that events were about to come to a head.

July 13 (Thursday): On this day, HANSEN informed KUEBART that their plans should have come to fruition that day, that the deed was to have been committed at Oborsalzberg, but had been abandoned since HIMMLER was absent from the Fuehrerhauptquartier and his liquidation had been simultaneously planned with that of HITLER.

KUEBART asked HANSEN whether he thought that HIMMLER, from his absence, had become alive to the existence of the plot, but HANSEN replied that he considered HIMMLER's absence on that day to have been accidental and unpremeditated.

July 15 (Saturday): KUEBART again asked HANSEN for permission to fetch his family from East Prussia, but was told by HANSEN to wait until midday next day, when apparently another coup was planned.

July 16 (Sunday): At midday, HANSEN informed KUEBART that nothing was to happen, and gave him the "all clear" to proceed to East Prussia and fetch his family, at the same time providing him with an aeroplane for the express purpose. (KUEBART points out that such an aeroplane trip was, in point of fact, strictly forbidden and could really only be authorised by the Air Ministry, owing to petrol shortage.) KUEBART does not know why the attempt planned on that day was postponed.

In spite of the prohibition, he flew to East Prussia and returned by the same means of transport, bringing with him his family, whom he lodged with relatives at Dresden. He found this locality convenient pending the completion of a small home he was preparing on the Berlin side of the River Elbe, which he did not envisage the Russians crossing.

July 19 (Wednesday): KUEBART visited HANSEN at his home, and the latter announced that he was leaving on the following day to visit his wife who was expecting a child at a clinic at Burg Ellen in the neighbourhood of Michelau. Although HANSEN did not directly advise KUEBART of the events of the next day, he warned him to listen carefully to the radio, by which KUEBART clearly understood things were now to happen.

July 20 (Thursday): KUEBART was in the camp at Belinde, but nothing eventful happened in the morning. In the afternoon, he rang up Major PORITSCHKIN (in Berlin with I.i.), who remarked that something appeared to have occurred in the capital, as patrols had been posted all over the city.

KUEBART then questioned ENGELHORN who was at Belinde (and was also in the picture), asking him whether he knew of anything fresh,

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July 16 (Sunday): At midday Hansen informed Kuebart nothing was to happen, and gave him all the clear to proceed to East Prussia to fetch his family, at the same time providing him with an aeroplane for the express purpose. (AOB, [at that time, aviation became already quite restricted due to the general shortage of fuel](#)) (Kuebart points out that such an aeroplane trip was, in point of fact, strictly forbidden and could really only be authorised by the Air Ministry ([RLM](#)) owing to petrol shortage). Kuebart does not know why the attempt planned on that day was postponed.

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but ENGELHORN had no news.

At 1900 hours came an announcement on the German radio that an attempt had been made on HITLER's life.

ENGELHORN then rang up STAUFFENBERG, who by this time had returned to the Allgemeines Heeresamt, Bendlerstrasse, Berlin, and obtained from him the news that General Oberst FROMM, the officer commanding the Berlin Ersatz Heer, had instituted the plotters' "emergency measures" and that the code word "Valkuere", implying the mobilisation of the Ersatz Heer, was in frequent use.

Immediately afterwards, ENGELHORN went to Zossen to speak to General WAGNER, the Quartiermeister des Heeres, on the advice of STAUFFENBERG, who had told him that he would get further news there.

In the meantime, KUEBART himself instituted his own security measures for the camp at Belinde, stopping all ingress and egress, and remarking to OHLETT, "Thank God, now things have started" (which words were later brought up in evidence against KUEBART at his subsequent trial).

Major NAUMANN now arrived from Baruth, about 1 Km. distant, where Abwehr II (Mil.Amt Section D) were stationed, and asked KUEBART what was happening, for he was not implicated in the plot. KUEBART replied that emergency measures appeared to have been instituted. NAUMANN asked why HITLER and HEESLER had not introduced these, as they were responsible for home security, and KUEBART replied that "they were probably dead".

ENGELHORN then returned from Zossen, announcing that he had seen WAGNER but that the latter had been unable to give him any information, simply saying that they must wait. ENGELHORN then informed NAUMANN that similar emergency security measures had been instituted at Baruth, where orders had been given to shoot at anyone approaching, "whether in grey, brown or black".

ENGELHORN then returned to Zossen, there being apparently no difficulties in this journey as it was only 15 Kms. away, but obtained no further information.

On his return, he rang up STAUFFENBERG at the Allgemeines Heeres Amt in the Bendlerstrasse. He was, however, unable to establish contact with STAUFFENBERG (for the latter had already been arrested).

KUEBART was then telephoned by the Landrat of Baruth, who asked who had introduced these emergency measures there, saying that they were ridiculous. In the meantime, NAUMANN was rung up by some officer in Berlin and ordered to countermand the emergency measures at Baruth.

Then Kapt. BECHTOLDSELM, Liaison Officer between Mil.Amt and the German Admiralty, was informed by telephone by the O.K.M. of the dreaded news that HITLER was still alive and that HEESLER and KLITEL had taken all possible powers upon themselves to suppress the revolution.

KUEBART now realised the complete failure of the plot.

At 1900 hrs came an announcement on the German radio that an attempt had been made on Hitler's life.

Engelhorn then rang up Stauffenberg, who by this time returned from the Allgemeines Heeresamt, Bendlerstrasse, Berlin, and obtained from him the news that General Obst. Fromm, the officer commanding the Berlin Ersatz Heer, had instituted the plotters' "emergency matters" and that the code word "Walküre" implying the mobilisation of the Ersatz Heer, was in frequent use.

Immediate afterwards, Engelhorn went to Zossen ([from the 15 km north of the Belinde office south of it](#)) to speak General Wagner, the Quartiermeister des Heeres, on the advice of Stauffenberg, who told him that he would get further news there.
(AOB, [I suppose that the sequence of events described are confusing and not in accordance with what we know now](#))

In the meantime, Kuebart himself instituted his own security measures for the camp of Belinde, stopping all ingress and egress and remarking to Ohletz, "Thank God, now things have started" (which latter words later brought up in evidence against Kuebart at his subsequent trial [for the Volksgerichtshof](#))

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Engelhorn then returned to Zossen ([about 15 kms to the north](#)) there being apparently no difficulties in his journey as it was only 15 kms away, but obtained no further information.

On his return he rang Stauffenberg at at the Allgemeines Heeres Amt in the Bendler Strasse. He was however, unable to establish contact with Stauffenberg (for the latter had been already arrested).

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Kuebart now realised the complete failure of the plot.



A little later, ENGELHORN rang SCHELLENBERG at Amt. VI and, feigning ignorance, asked him what was the matter. SCHELLENBERG confirmed the existence of the emergency measures and the acts in relation thereto of KOSSEL and NEUBER, saying that HITLER would shortly speak on the radio.

At midnight, HITLER duly spoke on the radio, and ENGELHORN gathered together his Gruppenleiter, informing them of what had happened and announcing that all their officers stood solidly behind the Fuehrer.

July 21 (Friday): On this day, a meeting had previously been arranged for KUEBART with SCHELLENBERG. He did not know the purpose of this meeting since a message had only been received from SCHELLENBERG at midday on the day before. SCHELLENBERG, however, was absent, so KUEBART instead saw Standartenfuehrer STEINLE and Ostbaf. PAEFFGEN. These two S.D. officers, in addition to others at Amt. VI, had every appearance of having had a sleepless night, and whatever meeting had been arranged for KUEBART appeared to have been cancelled.

KUEBART then continued by car with Sdf. WEISS, who was with him, to a little place named Krakow am See, near Mecklenburg, where he was negotiating for the purchase of a small "weekend place", with the assistance of one Director Helmut MAURER who resided there. (MAURER was an international business man whom KUEBART had met in the autumn of 1943 at Zossen. He was not directly employed on intelligence work, but had occasionally helped the Abwehr in currency matters, exploiting at the same time his Abwehr connections for his own particular business.)

KUEBART and WEISS returned to Belinde Camp that evening, and they caught sight of SCHELLENBERG's car in the camp and noticed the presence of a number of S.D. officers. When KUEBART saw a light burning in HANSEN's hut, he had forebodings, and turned in in his own hut in a none too happy frame of mind.

July 22 (Saturday): KUEBART was awakened at about 8 o'clock in the morning by OILETZ, who came into his hut exclaiming that the worst had happened and that he "had grown ten years older in the night". He mentioned that he himself had been interrogated by SCHELLENBERG, but apparently the latter was not over interested in him. Further, he said that ENGELHORN, together with HANSEN (KUEBART had not seen the latter since July 19) had been taken to Berlin in the course of the previous day: that SCHELLENBERG himself, the previous night, had searched HANSEN's hut. OILETZ added that the S.D. were also looking for KUEBART and that he was due to be taken off to the Gestapo in Berlin that very morning.

KUEBART IS TAKEN TO BERLIN, INTERROGATED & IMPRISONED

OILETZ had informed KUEBART that he (KUEBART) was expected to report to Standartenfuehrer STEINLE at Amt. VI, and WEISS drove him there that morning, unescorted by the S.D. Here, STEINLE told KUEBART to write down his experiences on July 20; this KUEBART did, taking care, however, not to incriminate himself in any way.

STEINLE then took him to see Gruppenfuehrer MUELLER, Chief of the Gestapo, Amt. IV. The latter read through KUEBART's deposition and remarked that it was a tissue of lies, that HANSEN had already confessed to everything and that there was nothing for KUEBART to do

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Kuebart then continued by car with Sdf. Weiss (Kuebart's assistant), who was with him to a little place called Krakow am See, near Mecklenburg. Where he was negotiating for the purchase of a small "weekend place", with the assistance of one Direktor Helmut Maurer who resided there. (Maurer was an international business man whom Kuebart had met in the Autumn of 1943 in Zossen. He was not directly employed on Intelligence work, but had occasionally helped the Abwehr in currency matters, exploiting at the same time his Abwehr connections for his own particular business.)

Kuebart and Weiss returned to Belinde Camp that evening, and they caught sight of Schellenberg's car in the camp and noticed the presence of a number of S.D. officers. (these might have been engaged at Amt III as being concerned with "Inland" matters). When Kuebart saw a light burning in Hansen's hut, he had forebodings, and turned in his own hut in a not too happy frame mind.

July 22 (Saturday): Kuebart was wakened at 8 in the morning by Ohletz, who came into his hut exclaiming that the worst had happened and that he "had grown ten years older in the night". He mentioned that he himself had been interrogated by Schellenberg, but apparently the latter was not interested in him. Further he said that Engelhorn together with Hansen (Kuebart had not seen the latter (Hansen) since July 19) had been taken to Berlin in the course of the previous of the previous day: Schellenberg himself, the previous night, had searched Hansen's hut. Ohletz added that the S.D. were also looking for Kuebart and that he was due to be taken off to the Gestapo in Berlin that very morning. (AOB, in this case using the Gestapo was appropriate, as the Gestapo always was linked with criminal affairs with a secret character)

Kuebart is taken to Berlin, interrogated & imprisoned.

Ohletz had informed Kuebart that he (Kuebart) was expected to report to Standartenführer Steimle at Amt VI (but this latter Amt was not for criminal affairs that was Amt IV or Amt III) and Weiss (Sdf. Kuebart's assistant) drove him there that morning, unescorted by the S.D. Here Steimle told Kuebart to write down his experience on July 20; Kuebart did, taking care, however, not to incriminate himself in any way.

Steimle then took to Gruppenführer Müller (bitch known as "Gestapo" Müller, at Amt IV) Chief of S.D. and Gestapo Amt IV. The latter read through Kuebart's deposition and remarked that it was a tissue of lies, that Hansen had already confessed to everything and that there was nothing for Kuebart to do but follow the same course.

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but to follow the same course. KUEBART refused to do this, and, protesting his innocence, was incarcerated in the Gestapo dungeons in the Prinz Albrechtstrasse.

He was held prisoner in the Prinz Albrechtstrasse for 14 days until August 6, 1944, during the first week of which he continued to wear uniform, but as, after 3 days, he had to be handcuffed for his interrogations and exercise, he afterwards donned civilian clothes.

INTERLOCUTORY INTERROGATIONS

During this period, KUEBART was frequently interrogated by two Gestapo officers, Stabaf. GUESCHER and Kripo Kommissar BAUESER.

He was also interrogated by an unknown Hauptsturmfuehrer. During these interrogations he was asked why he had not arrested SdF. WREDE for his failure to reveal JENSEN's attempt to bribe him. KUEBART replied that he was not in charge of WREDE and considered such arrest to be unnecessary since WREDE's omission seemed to be actuated by stupidity rather than malice. He was also asked why he had made difficulties in handing over JENSEN to the S.D. after their demand therefor. He replied that as JENSEN was a soldier he regarded it as a matter within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Abwehr. (With regard to HOLLERMANER, KUEBART admits that SCHREIBER exceeded his scope in arresting this man, since HOLLERMANER was merely concerned with JENSEN's plans to desert, and enjoyed civilian status. There was no dispute with the S.D. with regard to jurisdiction over this man.)

TRANSFER TO LEHRTERSTRASSE PRISON

On August 6, 1944, KUEBART was transferred to the verminous Lehrterstrasse Prison where he was detained until September 17. During his sojourn here, he met ENGELHORN, von ROLING, SEWELER, Graf von SCHACK, Oberleutnant von RULIN and another unknown Oberstleutnant, who had been participants in the plot. During this period, his interrogations continued.

KUEBART enjoyed one good stroke of fortune, to which he probably owes his life, during his stay at the Lehrterstrasse Prison. A Sturmfuehrer one day entered KUEBART's cell bringing with him the file relating to his case and telling KUEBART to sign one of the interrogations. KUEBART refused to sign this without knowing what it was about, and obtained an opportunity to read it for himself. While doing this, he quickly glanced through the file and came across HANSEN's deposition in which the latter absolved him of all guilty knowledge of the plot. This now enabled KUEBART to form the basis of his legal defence.

RETURN TO PRINZ ALBRECHTSTRASSE PRISON

On September 17, KUEBART, in company with the above-mentioned participants, returned to the Prinz Albrechtstrasse Prison.

During the term of his imprisonment, he met, in addition, other participants in the plot and gives their names and fates as follows:-

- 1) Feldmarschal von WITZLER: Hanged August 8
- 2) Generaloberst HOLMNER: Hanged August 8
- 3) General der Nachrichtentruppe FLEGEL: Hanged August 8

But to follow the same course. Kuebart refused to do this, and, protesting his innocence, was incarcerated in the Gestapo dungeons in the Prinz Albrechtstrasse.

He was held in the Prinz Albrechtstrasse until August 6, 1944, during the first week of which he continued to wear uniform, but as, after 8 days, he had to be handcuffed for his interrogations for his interrogations and exercise, he afterward wore civilian clothes.

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He was also interrogated by an unknown Hauptsturmführer. During these interrogations he was asked why he not had arrested Sdf. Wrede (the one involved with Jebsen's financial manipulations) for his failure to reveal Jebsen's attempt to bribe him. (the Abwehr actually possessed no direct power to mature this, only GFP was allowed to put someone in captivity; Abwehr personnel did even not carry weapons). Kuebart replied that he was not in charge with Wrede and considered such arrest to be unnecessary since Wrede's omission seemed to be actuated by stupidity rather than malice. He was also asked why he had made difficulties in handing over Jebsen to the S.D. after their demand therefor. He replied that as Jebsen was a soldier he regards it as a matter within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Abwehr. (With regard to Moldenhauer, Kuebart admits that Schreiber (KO Lisbon) exceeded his scope in arresting this man, since Moldenhauer was merely concerned with Jebsen's plan to desert, and enjoyed civilian status. (this is not entirely correct: Moldenhauer, originated from Nest Cologne (Köln) who managed to go to Madrid, and then went to Lisbon. But against his masters in Cologne) There was no dispute with the S.D. with regard jurisdiction over this man. (AOB, Nest Cologne was an Abwehr branch, thus jurisdiction felt under O.K.W. Thus not under the S.D. because they were part of Amt IV or III, hence, no military matters)

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| 3) General der nachrichtentruppe Fellgiebel | Hanged August 8 |



4) Generaloberst HALDER:	Hanged beginning 1945
5) Generaloberst von FROMM, commanding the Berlin Ersatz Heer:	Fate unknown
6) Generalmajor STIEFF:	Hanged August 8
7) Oberst HANSEN:	KULBART saw him in Sept. in the Lehrterstrasse Prison, but did not have an opportunity of talking to him. KULBART is uncertain of HANSEN's fate, though HANSEN's wife later told him he was said to have been executed on Sept. 9.
8) York von WARTENBERG, Foreign Office official:	Said to have escaped from prison during an air raid.
9) Reichsueberwachungskommissar GOERDELER:	KULBART last saw him on Oct. 13, 1944, in prison in the Prinz Albrechtstrasse bound hand and foot.
10) Admiral CANARIS:	Fate unknown.
11) Generalmajor OSTER, one-time chief of Abwehr Z:	Fate unknown.
12) Oberst von MAROGNA-REDWITZ:	Probably hanged; date unknown.
13) SCHACHT:	Fate unknown.
14) Obstlt. SIEND, Adjutant of the General Staff:	Understood to have been hanged.
15) Generalleutnant von HASE, Commander of Berlin Garrison:	Hanged August 8.
16) Oberleutnant von REIN:	Acquitted September 19, 1944, but subsequently condemned to death on October 10 and hanged
17) Major Graf von SCHLICK:	Condemned to death on Octo 10 and hanged.
18) Hauptmann STRUNK, HANSEN's personal assistant:	Condemned to death on October 10 and hanged.

Please consider this page yourself

SEPTEMBER 18, 1944

KLEBART received a copy of the indictment against him together with a summons to appear before the Volksgerichtshof (People's Court) on September 19. The indictment recited in the main as follows:-

1. That by reason of having committed an act of high treason the Military Council (Lehrenhof) had decided that KLEBART was to be cashiered from the Army and deprived of civil rights and German citizenship. (This decision was subsequently reversed by HITLER's order when KLEBART was later acquitted by the People's Court.)
2. That KLEBART had conspired with a small clique of cowardly officers to murder the Fuehrer, to overthrow the National Socialist regime and then to conclude an unworthy peace pact with the enemy.
3. That it was proven that KLEBART had knowledge not only of the planned revolt but of the attempt itself and that he had further irrevocably allied himself with the conspirators by virtue of his overt act in taking precautionary measures for the safety of Belinde Camp on July 20.

That same afternoon, Dr. SCHMIDT, the lawyer who had been allotted by the People's Court for the defence of KLEBART, interviewed the latter in his cell.

KLEBART drew his attention to a quantity of the points contained in the indictment, pointing out that they were manifestly false in many material particulars.

His lawyer, however, replied that it was of little use arguing on these points as he considered KLEBART's case already lost from the intrinsic gravity of the charge.

FIRST SESSION OF THE PEOPLE'S COURT, SEPTEMBER 19, 1944

On this date, the State's trial of KLEBART and some of his fellow conspirators commenced. This hearing was not presided over by the President of the People's Court - one FREISLER. (FREISLER had previously been a Communist, subsequently went to Russia where he, in KLEBART's opinion, gained experience in big State trials of this kind, then returned to the Reich where he later received this appointment and was awarded the Nazi Party gold medal.) His place was taken on this day by some deputy whose name is unknown to KLEBART.

The prisoners were dealt with in the following order:-

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. von ROTHE: | was condemned to death but sentenced was not pronounced. |
| 2. von RAIN: |) The Public Prosecutor asked for an acquittal of these three defendants. |
| 3. von SCHACK: | |
| 4. Unknown Obstlt.: | |

While the Prosecutor was speaking, FREISLER entered the Court

as a spectator. KUEBART assumes that he intervened, finding this treatment too mild, for after a short adjournment the Court acquitted von RAMIN and ordered an adjournment with regard to the cases of von SCHACK and the Oberstleutnant.

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|
| 5. von STRUENK: | } | These cases were treated together, and in regard thereto the Court ordered an adjournment pending the introduction of further evidence. |
| 6. ENGELHORN: | | |
| 7. KUEBART: | | |

In KUEBART's case, such evidence mainly concerned his plea that HUSSEN had not admitted him into the group's plot or informed him thereof. KUEBART's counsel congratulated him on the evidence he had given under cross-examination by the State and then his defending counsel himself made a short and vigorous speech on KUEBART's behalf.

OCTOBER 4, 1944

Kripo Kommissar BAUMER, the Gestapo official who had previously interrogated KUEBART, visited him this day in his cell and threatened him for the disgraceful way in which he was conducting his defence.

On the same day, KUEBART was allotted another lawyer, Dr. SCHWARZ, in place of Dr. WEINER who was apparently considered to have been too outspoken in his speech on KUEBART's behalf at the first hearing.

OCTOBER 5, 1944

In the early morning, BAUMER again visited KUEBART in his cell and confiscated from him the notes his counsel had asked him to prepare with regard to the conduct of his defence, together with farewell letters KUEBART had written.

On the same day, the hearing of the trial was resumed, but this time was taken under the presidency of FREISNER, who declared the proceedings of the Court on September 19 null and void, with the exception of such as related to von RAMIN's acquittal.

That day the Court dealt with the following cases:-

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. von ROEBER: | Sentenced to death | |
| 2. STRUENK:) | } | Sentence remained unpronounced |
| 3. KUEBART:) | | |

KUEBART states that as a whole things did not go too badly for him at this hearing and he was able to rebut many of the points raised by the State against him.

OCTOBER 9, 1944

The two Gestapo officials, BAUMER and GUENTHER, again entered KUEBART's cell and reiterated their threats as to what would befall him were he to continue to conduct his defence as hitherto.

Kuebart presumes that he ([Freissler](#)) intervened finding this treatment too mild, for a short adjournment the Court acquitted von Ramin and ordered an adjournment with regard to the case of von Schack and the Obstlt.

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| 5) von Struenck | } | These cases were treated together and in regard thereto the Court ordered an adjournment pending the |
| 6) Engelhorn | | |
| 7) Kuebart | | |

In Kuebart's case, such evidence mainly concerned his plea that Hansen had not admitted him into the group's plot informed him thereof. Kuebart's counsel congratulated him on the evidence given he had given under cross-examination ([Kreuzverhör](#)) by the State and then his defending counsel himself made a short and vigorous speech on Kuebart's behalf.

October 4, 1944.

Kripo Kommissar Baumer, the Gestapo official who had previously interrogated Kuebart, visited him this day in his cell and threatened him for the disgraceful way in which he was conducting his defence.

On the same day, Kuebart was allotted another lawyer, Dr. Schwarz, in place of Dr. Weimann who was apparently considered to have been outspoken in his speech on Kuebart's behalf, at the first hearing.

October 5, 1944.

In the early morning, Baumer again visited Kuebart in his cell and confiscated from him the notes his counsel had asked him to prepare with regard to the conduct of his defence, together with farewell letters Kuebart had written.

On the same day, the hearing of the trial was resumed, but this time was taking under the presidency of [Roland Freissler](#), who declared the proceedings of Court of on September 19 for null and void ([für nichtig](#)), with the exception of such as related to von Ramin's acquittal.

That day the Court dealt with the following cases:-

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. von Roenne | Sentenced to death | |
| 2. Struenck | } | Sentence remained unpronounced |
| 3. Kuebart | | |

Kuebart states that as a whole thing did not go too badly him at the hearing and he was able to rebut many of the points raised by the State against him.

October 9, 1944.

Two Gestapo officials, Baumer and Guenther, again entered his cell and reiterated their threats as to what would befall him were he to continue to conduct defence as hitherto.

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OCTOBER 10, 1944

On this day, the hearing was resumed both as regards ENGELHORN and KUEBART. KUEBART noticed that FRENZLER on that day continued his conduct of the trial in a very biased fashion and assumed that he must have received some advice from the Gestapo, for he treated one or two points of contention in the same way and with exactly the same words as the Gestapo had done in the course of KUEBART's interrogations.

The case was then adjourned as regards these two defendants till October 12, pending the calling of fresh evidence for the State.

When KUEBART and ENGELHORN had left the Court, STRUBCK, Graf von SCHACK and the unknown Obstat, were then condemned to death, in spite of the fact that at the first hearing on September 19 Prosecuting Counsel had asked for acquittals in the case of the latter two defendants.

OCTOBER 11, 1944

On this day, Kriminal Kommissar BAUER approached KUEBART in his cell and now adopted different tactics, since threats appeared to make little impression upon him. BAUER urged KUEBART to adopt a more modest attitude before the Court so as to ensure for himself a more favourable outcome, which BAUER alleged might be altered by the Gestapo to KUEBART's advantage. KUEBART claims that he did not fall for these "simptomata games", since he had come to know the Gestapo methods too well.

OCTOBER 12, 1944

The hearing was again resumed, the State calling two witnesses, Major OHELTZ and Major NAUMANN.

a) Major OHELTZ. OHELTZ was called by the State to testify to a remark made by KUEBART on July 20, when he said, inter-alia, to OHELTZ, "Thank God, now things have started". KUEBART contrived to rebut this evidence against him by replying that the words complained of were uttered by way of reference to the steps taken by the Reich qua emergency measures rather than to the plot itself. OHELTZ, when re-examined by the State, confirmed that KUEBART's interpretation as to the innuendo of his words bore the same construction as he himself had placed upon them.

b) Major NAUMANN. The State then called NAUMANN to testify to a remark made by KUEBART to the effect that the war for Germany had been lost a long time ago. With regard to this, KUEBART put forward the defence that NAUMANN had joined the Abwehr as a new and inexperienced officer and had expressed childish optimism over sundry matters without any true appreciation of the seriousness of the general position, and that, KUEBART, with the words complained of had only intended to damp this optimism. NAUMANN, when re-examined, confirmed that he understood this to have been the sense in which KUEBART's remark had been made.

The hearing of these witnesses concluded, the President of the Court, FRENZLER, endeavoured to introduce further charges of defeatism against KUEBART which had not been framed originally in the indictment. Although KUEBART could not object to them on that score,

October 10, 1944.

On this day, the hearing ([Anhörung](#)) was resumed both as regards Engelhorn and Kuebart. Kuebart noticed that Freissler on that day continued his conduct of trial in a very biased fashion and assumed ([Kuebart](#)) that he must have received some advice from the Gestapo, for he treated one or two points of contention in the same way and with exactly the words as the Gestapo had done in the course of Kuebart's interrogations.

The case was then adjourned ([unterbrochen](#)) as regards these two defendants till October 12, pending the calling of fresh evidence for the State ([das Reich](#)).

When Kuebart and Engelhorn had left the Court, Struenck, Graf von Schack and the unknown Obstlt. Were sentenced to death, in spite of the fact that at the first hearing on September 19 Prosecuting Counsel ([Staatsanwaltschaft](#)) had asked for acquittals in the case of the two latter defendants.

October 11, 1944.

On this day Kriminal Kommissar Baumer approached Kuebart and now adapted different tactics, since threats appeared to make little impression upon him. Baumer urged Kuebart to adopt a more modest attitude before the Court so as to ensure himself a more favourable outcome, which Baumer alleged might altered by the Gestapo to Kuebart's advantage. Kuebart claims that he did not fall for these "simpletons games", since he had come to know the Gestapo methods too well.

October 12, 1944.

The hearing was again resumed, the State ([der Staat](#)) calling two witnesses, Major Ohletz.

a) [Major Ohletz](#). Ohletz was called by the State ([Staatsanwaltschaft](#)) to testify to a remark made by Kuebart on July 20, when he said inter-alia, to Ohletz "Thank God, now things have started". Kuebart contrived to rebut this evidence against him by replying that the words complained of were uttered by the way of a reference to the steps taken by the Reich qua emergency measures rather than to the plot itself. Ohletz when re-examined by the State, confirmed that Kuebart's interpretation as to the innuendo of his words before the same construction as he himself had placed upon them.

b) [Major Naumann](#). The State called then called Naumann to testify to a remark made by Kuebart to the effect that the war for Germany had been lost a long time ago (**how true!**) With regard to this, Kuebart put forward the defence that Naumann had joined the Abwehr as a new and inexperienced officer and had expressed childish optimism over sundry matters without any true appreciation of the seriousness of the general position, and that Kuebart, with the words complained of had only intended to damp his optimism. Naumann when re-examined confirmed that he understood this to have been the sense in which Kuebart's remark had been made.

The hearing of these witness concluded, the President of the Court Freissler, endeavoured to introduce further charges of defeatism against Kuebart which had not been framed originally in the indictment. Although Kuebart could not object to him the score, he contends that he was able to rebut them all.



he contends he was able to rebut them all.

ACQUITTAL

Prosecuting Counsel then asked for the death penalty for both ENGELHORN and KUEBART, and the latter's Counsel put in an impassioned plea on his behalf. After a short adjournment, the Court pronounced sentence of death in the case of ENGELHORN, but acquitted KUEBART for lack of evidence.

(KUEBART wore civilian clothes throughout the trial, but was not shackled during the course of it.)

KUEBART IS RELEASED

In spite of the Court's acquittal, KUEBART had to remain in prison until October 14, 1944, when he was freed by the Gestapo who told him that owing to the decision of the Court they had to release him; that he did not deserve this acquittal; that he would be permitted to rejoin his family in Dresden, but would have to report there to the Gestapo; and that his future disposal depended upon his future good conduct.

HEARSAY VERSION BY KUEBART OF EVENTS OF JULY 1944

In the course of his incarceration, KUEBART learned the following further details concerning the events of July 20:-

On July 17, 1944, HANSEN, STRUECK and STAUFFENBERG had met at STRUECK's house to settle the final details of the plot.

On July 20, 1944, STAUFFENBERG flew to HITLER's Headquarters at Rastenburg, East Prussia, to attend a lecture by HITLER, probably on the military situation. STAUFFENBERG placed some type of Alwehr explosive (details not known) in a brief case under a thick oaken table on the floor in front of HITLER. He did not await the explosion but left the room, though he heard it when it occurred. The explosion apparently did not do as much damage as it should, since the proceedings took place in a hut instead of the more solidly constructed room which had been anticipated, and the explosive was thereby insufficiently tamped.

KUEBART later learned that in the explosion General SCHEURDT, a Luftwaffe General, and a high-ranking naval officer were killed; a General HANSEINGER was wounded and an Oberst BRUNET sustained very serious injuries. As to the Fuehrer himself, KUEBART understands that his hands were badly burned and that he sustained great nervous shock. He has heard nothing more of the actual incident, nor of any resulting permanent effects on HITLER's then general condition of health. (KUEBART states that he has only seen HITLER once, and that was in the course of 1933 or 1934, when the Fuehrer was visiting a military school in Dresden.)

STAUFFENBERG did not inspect the results of the damage of the explosion but instead hastened back to Berlin by air, announcing HITLER's death. The persons to whom he gave this news were:-

Feldmarschal von MITELMANN
Generäloberst BECK
Generäloberst HOEPFNER
General OLBRIGHT

Aquittal.

Prosecuting Counsel then asked for the death penalty for both Engelhorn and Kuebart, and the latter's Counsel put in an impassioned plea on his behalf, after a short adjournment, the Court pronounced sentence of death in case of Engelhorn, but acquitted Kuebart for lack of evidence. (Kuebart wore civilian clothes throughout the trial, but was not shackled during the course of it.)

Kuebart is released.

In spite of the Court's acquittal, Kuebart had to remain in prison until October 14, 1944, when he was freed by the Gestapo who told him that owing to the decision of the Court they had to release him; that he did not deserve this acquittal; that he would be permitted to rejoin his family in Dresden, but would have to report there to the Gestapo; and that his future disposal depended upon his good conduct.

Hearsay version by Kuebart of events of July 1944.

In the course of his incarceration, Kuebart learned the following further details concerning the events of July 20:-

On July 17, 1944, Hansen, Struenk and Stauffenberg had met at Struenk's house to settle the final details of the plot.

On July 20, 1944, Stauffenberg flew to Hitler's Headquarters at Rastenburg, East Prussia, to attend a lecture by Hitler, probably on the military situation. Stauffenberg placed some type of Abwehr explosive (details not known) in a brief case under a thick oaken table on the floor in front of Hitler. He did not await the explosion but left the room, though he heard when it occurred. The explosion apparently did not do as much damage as it should, since proceeding took place in a hut instead of the more solidly constructed room which had been anticipated, and the explosive was thereby insufficiently tamped.

Kuebart later learned that in the explosion General Schmudt, a Luftwaffe general, and a high-ranking naval officer were killed; a general Haeusinger was wounded and an Obst. Brandt ([Hitler's biograph?](#)) sustained very serious injuries. As to the Führer himself, Kuebart understands that his hands were badly burned and that he sustained great nervous shock. He has heard nothing more of the actual incident, nor of any resulting permanent effects on Hitler's then general condition of health.

(Kuebart states that he has only seen Hitler once, and that was in the course of 1933 or 1934, when the Führer was visiting a military school in Dresden.)

Stauffenberg did not inspect the results of the damage of the explosion but instead hastened back to Berlin by air, announcing Hitler's death. The persons to whom he gave his news were:-

Feldmarschal von Witzleben
Generaloberst Beck
General Hoepfner
General Olbricht.
Obst Merz von Querenheim



Oberst Merz von QUEENFELDM

This group were all assembled at the Allgemeines Hoeres Amt in the Bendlerstrasse.

It had been planned, after the receipt of this news, to mobilise the Ersatz Heer under General FROMM with the code word "Valkuere", and that the Berlin Garrison Commander, Generalleutnant von HASE, should seize all public buildings in the capital and arrest GOEBBELS. It was considered that by these acts all the responsible remaining S.S. leaders would be rendered impotent, and although HEINER was neither present at Rastenburg nor in Berlin it was likewise considered he too would be thereby incapacitated. However, at that moment, either a radio or telephone message was received in the Bendlerstrasse that HITLER was alive. On hearing this, HASE ordered Major REIER, Commander of the Berlin Guard Battalion, to seize all public buildings. REIER replied that this was impossible as he had too few troops at his disposal. Other troops were then allotted for this task, and REIER was ordered to arrest GOEBBELS. REIER duly went to GOEBBELS, but instead of arresting him, informed him of what had taken place and telephoned HITLER personally. (This he was able to do since General FOLLGEMEEL had failed in his task of severing the communications of the Fuehrer's Headquarters.)

In the meantime, a General von KUEHNELISCH, Commander of Wehrkreis III, who was believed to be "in the other camp", had been arrested in the Bendlerstrasse.

Confirmation was then received that HITLER was still alive. From then on, events moved quickly and the rebellion speedily collapsed.

WITTEBEN left for his home in the country. HASE went over to GOEBBELS and tried to make out that there had been some military error and that he was not to blame. REIER occupied the Bendlerstrasse premises. General BECK attempted to shoot himself, but merely wounded himself, and was finished off by General FROMM, who swiftly appeared as if on the other side "to save his own skin". FROMM then, in his sudden zeal for his Fuehrer, arranged for STAMFELBERG, OBERNIGHT and one other unknown officer to be shot that very night.

The following day, July 21, 1944, General WAGNER shot himself.

HASEM throughout these events was visiting his wife at Burg Ellen, as previously stated. He remained there until July 22, 1944, when he rang up, asking whether he could remain on at his wife's bedside, but was ordered back to Belinde immediately and subsequently arrested.

General STUELLMAGEL, who had by this time arrested all the leading S.D. officers in Paris, was shot.

Had the rebellion succeeded, General BECK was to have been Fuehrer; Feldmarschal von WITTEBEN, Commander-in-Chief of all the German forces; and GOEBBELS the Reichschancellor. These three leaders were then to have concluded peace with the Allies.

KUEBART claims that HANSEN had arranged for KUEBART to accompany him to Switzerland after these events, presumably in connection with such peace proposals.

This group were all assembled at the Allgemeines Heeres Amt in the Bendlerstrasse.

It had been planned, after the receipt of this news, to mobilise the Ersatz Heer under General Fromm with the code-word “Walküre”, and that the Berlin Garrison Commander, Generalleutnant Hase, should seize all public buildings in the capital and arrest Goebbels. It was considered that by these acts all the responsible remaining S.S. leaders would be rendered impotent, and although Hase was neither present at Rastenburg nor in Berlin it was likewise considered he too would thereby be incapacitated. However, at that moment, either a radio or telephone message was received in the Bendlerstrasse that Hitler was still alive. On hearing this, Hase ordered Major Remer, Commander of the Berlin Guard Battalion to seize all public buildings. Remer replied that this was impossible as he had too few troops. Other troops were then allotted for this task, and Remer was ordered to arrest Goebbels. Remer duly went to Goebbels, but instead of arresting him, informed of what had taken place and Goebbels telephoned Hitler personally. (this he was able to do since General Fellgiebel had failed in his task of serving the communications of the Führer Headquarters.)

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Confirmation was then received that Hitler was still alive. From then on, events moved quickly and the rebellion speedily collapsed.

Witzleben left for his home in the country. Hase went over to the Goebbels and tried to make out that there had been some military error and that he was not to blame. Remer occupied the Bendlerstrasse premises. General Beck attempted to shoot himself, but merely wounded himself, and was finished off by General Fromm, who swiftly appeared as if on the other side “to save his skin”. Fromm then, in his sudden zeal for his Führer, arranged for Stauffenberg and Olbricht and one other officer to be shot that very night.

The following day, July 21, 1944, General Wagner shot himself.

Hansen throughout these events was visiting his wife at Burg Ellen? As previously stated. He remained there until July 22, 1944, when he rang up, asking whether he should remain at his wife’s bedside, but was ordered back to Belinde immediately and subsequently arrested.

General Stülpnagel, who had by this time arrested all the leading S.D. officers in Paris, was shot. (BdS?)

Had the rebellion succeeded, General Beck was to have been Führer; Feldmarschal von Witzleben, Commander-in Chief of all the German Forces; and Goerdeler the Reichschancellor (Reichskanzler). These three leaders were then to have concluded peace with the Allies.

Kuebart claims that Hansen had arranged for Kuebart to accompany him to Switzerland after these events, presumably in connection with such peace proposals.

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OCTOBER 14, 1944: RELEASE - TRIP TO DRESDEN

After his release, KUEBART visited the Personnel Branch of the O.K.W. where he was issued with a document (Item 3a(1) in his property) arranging for him to be issued with ration cards. He was then informed that he would have to await a decision as to his military status.

That same day he travelled to Zossen where he spent the night and telephoned his wife and relatives, letting them know he was still alive.

The majority of the officers at Zossen - as at Belinde later - appeared to want to have little to do with KUEBART.

OCTOBER 15, 1944: REJOINS FAMILY AT DRESDEN

On this day KUEBART left for his old offices at Belinde to pick up his personal possessions, but found that most of these had been appropriated as his brother officers had not thought to see him alive again.

On the same day he continued his journey to Dresden, where he rejoined his wife and family at the Admiral Scheerstrasse 9.

OCTOBER 17, 1944: FEARS OF FRESH TRIAL

On October 17, KUEBART reported to the Gestapo offices in Dresden at Bismarkstrasse 16, which had been warned of his pending arrival.

At the time of KUEBART's trial he claims that the People's Court was only empowered to impose the death penalty or acquit, but since that time KUEBART had learned that they had become enabled also to impose alternative sentences of either hard labour or imprisonment.

KUEBART knew that the Gestapo were dissatisfied with the result of his case and in the beginning of November, 1944, wrote to his lawyer Dr. SCHWARZ, whose offices were situated in the Kurfurstendamm, asking whether there was any possibility of a fresh trial or new sentence. His lawyer replied that although this was always possible he did not anticipate that it would occur.

From the time of KUEBART's visit to the Gestapo offices in Dresden on October 17, before undertaking journeys of more than a day's duration, he had to obtain the approval of the Gestapo.

JOURNEY TO ZOSSEN & EAST PRUSSIA

KUEBART had still heard nothing regarding his military status and accordingly, at the beginning of November 1944, travelled to Zossen and interviewed the Military Personnel Branch there. They informed him that his status was still undecided.

From Zossen, KUEBART journeyed to his mother-in-law's at Bellinen, East Prussia, for about eight or ten days' rest. He then returned direct to Dresden.

Shortly afterwards, KUEBART wrote to the People's Court to bespeak a written copy of their judgment order, but on October 24, they replied (see Item 1a(4) in KUEBART's property), refusing his request.

October 14, 1944: Release – Trip to Dresden.

After his release, Kuebart visited the Personnel Branch of the O.K.W. where he was issued with a document in his property arranging for him to be issued with ration cards. He was then informed that he would have to await a decision as to his military status.

That same day he travelled to Zossen where he spent the night and telephoned his wife and relatives, letting them know he was still alive.

The majority of the officers at Zossen – as at Belinde later – appeared to want have little to do with Kuebart.

October 15, 1944.

On this day Kuebart left for his old office at Belinde to pick up his personnel possessions, but found that most of these had been appropriated as his brother officers had not thought to see him alive again.

On the same day he continued his journey to Dresden, where he rejoined his wife and family at the Admiral Scheerstrasse 9.

October 17, 1944: Fears of fresh trial.

On October 17, Kuebart reported to the Gestapo offices in Dresden at Bismarckstrasse 16, which had been warned of his pending arrival.

At the time of Kuebart's trial he claims that the Volksgerichtshof was only to empowered to impose the death penalty or acquit, but since that time Kuebart had learned that they had become enabled also to impose alternative sentences of either hard labour or imprisonment.

Kuebart knew that the Gestapo were dissatisfied with the result of his case and in the beginning of November 1944, wrote his lawyer Dr. Schwarz, whose offices were situated Kurfürstendamm, asking him there was any possibility of a fresh trial or new sentence. His lawyer replied that although this was always possible he did not anticipate that it would occur.

From the time of Kuebart's visit to the Gestapo offices in Dresden on October 17, before undertaking journeys of more than a day's duration, he had to obtain the approval of the Gestapo.

Journey to Zossen and East Prussia.

Kuebart had still heard nothing regarding his military status and accordingly, at the beginning of November 1944, travelled to Zossen and interviewed the military Personnel Branch there. They informed him that his status was still undecided.

From Zossen, Kuebart journeyed to his mother-in-law at Bellinen, East Prussia, for eight or ten days rest. He then returned direct to Dresden.

Shortly afterwards, Kuebart wrote to the Volksgerichtshof to bespeak a written copy of their judgement order, but on October 24, they replied in Kuebart's property refusing his request.

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FURTHER JOURNEY TO ZOSSEN: MILITARY STATUS NOW DEFIED

In the beginning of December, 1944, KUEBART again visited the Personnel Branch in Zossen and learned from them that HITLER's previously order subsequent to his acquittal, suspending his original cashiering (ausgestossen) from the Army had been revoked and had been replaced by a further order dismissing him from the Army (Abgesentlassen), without the right to wear uniform. This dismissal was to take place w.e.f. November 17, 1944. Such order permitted him to use the title "Oberstleutnant a.D." (ausser Dienst), but decreed that he was not to receive further military employment, even in the Volksturm.

KUEBART was somewhat astonished that he had not been previously informed of this, but ascertained that the notification had been inadvertently addressed to Koenigsberg, and the Zossen Personnel Branch undertook to inform Dresden so that the necessary dismissal could be effected.

On his journey to Dresden, KUEBART looked up his elder brother Hans at Rummelsdorf and also picked up more of his possessions from Belinde.

DRESDEN

Shortly after his return to Dresden in the early part of December 1944, the local labour office tried to direct KUEBART to an armaments factory on the orders of the Gestapo. KUEBART, however, managed to evade this direction on the grounds that he had not yet received his certificate of release from the Army.

In the middle of December, KUEBART addressed emboldened letters of protest to KUEHL, GUBERLIN and HUEBLER relative to his dismissal from the Army, complaining that he had in point of fact been acquitted, but to these letters he received no reply.

KUEBART next pursued the matter by going personally to Zossen in an endeavour to obtain an interview with his previous (Fremde Heere) commanding officer, one Generalmajor GEMBLI. The latter, however, refused to receive KUEBART owing to his "dishonourable" dismissal from the Army. He then returned to Dresden via Belinde.

In the course of the period from October to December, 1944, KUEBART admits to having made three trips to a place in Saxony, Nischwitz, to fetch personal belongings.

TRIP TO EAST PRUSSIA

By this time, the Russian advance on East Prussia was gathering impetus and its inhabitants were no longer permitted to leave, so KUEBART accompanied his wife and eldest child to Bellinen to enable her to take leave of her relatives.

KUEBART MOVES TO MICHELAU

On February 18, 1945, KUEBART decided to leave Dresden in order to escape both the attentions of the Gestapo and the local labour office. But just as he had arrived with his wife and children at the railway station, there occurred the great Allied air raid on the city, in which, he claims, some 300,000 persons, most of them evacuees from the East, lost their lives, and the KUEBARTs, most of their possessions. He considers that he and his family owe their lives to the fact that they took shelter in a small room in the station rather than the air raid

Further journey to Zossen: military status now defined.

In the beginning of December, 1944, Kuebart again visited the Personnel Branch in Zossen and learned from them that Hitler's previously order subsequent to his acquittal, suspending his original cashiering (ausgestossen) from the Army had been revoked and had been replaced by a further order dismissing him from the Army (Ehrenlosentlassen), without the right to wear a uniform. This dismissal was to take place w.e.f. (mit Eingang vom) November 17, 1944. Such order permitted him to use the title "Oberstleutnant a.D. (ausser Dienst), but decreed that he was not to receive further military employment, even in the Volkssturm.

Kuebart was somewhat astonished that he had not been previously informed of this, ascertained that the notification had been inadvertently to Koenigsberg (likely on attack by the Russians), and the Zossen Personnel Branch undertook to inform Dresden so that the necessary dismissal could be effected.

On this journey to Dresden, Kuebart looked up his elder brother Hans at Kümmesdorf and also picked up more of his possessions from Belinde.

Dresden.

Shortly after his return to Dresden in the early part of December 1944, the local labour office tried to direct Kuebart to an armaments factory on orders of the gestapo. Kuebart, however, managed evade this direction on the grounds that he had not yet received his certificate of release from the army.

In the middle of December, Kuebart addressed emboldened letters of protest to Keitel, Guderian (one never knows whether he was dismissed or just in service again) and Himmler relative to his dismissal from the Army, complaining that he had in point of fact been acquitted, but these letters he received no reply.

Kuebart next pursued the matter by going personally to Zossen in an endeavour to obtain an interview with his previous (Fremde Heere) commanding officer, one Generalmajor Gehlen (the post-war OG Chief). The latter, however, refused to receive Kuebart owing to his "dishonourable" dismissal from the Army. He then returned to Dresden via Belinde (his last Mil. Amt office)

Trip to East Prussia.

By the time the Russian advance on East Prussia was gathering impetus and its inhabitants were no longer permitted to leave, so Kuebart accompanied his wife and oldest child to Bellinnen to enable her to take leave of her relatives (mother and father) (AOB, a real drama what happened after the Russians came?)

Kuebart moves to Michelau. (the place where Hansen's wife and children lived; Hansen was executed on 8 September at Plötzensee Prison, but the family wasn't appropriately informed)

On February 18, 1945, Kuebart decided to leave Dresden in order to escape both the attentions of the Gestapo and the local labour office. But just as he had arrived with his wife and children at the railway station, there occurred the great Allied air raid on the city, in which he claims some 300,000 (more realistic ≈ 25,000; but still corps were piling up after the devastating fire storm, constitutes a great disaster; 80,000 houses were destroyed, in this undefended city) persons, most of them evacuees from the East, lost their lives, and the Kuebarts, most of their possessions. He considers that he and his family owe their lives to the fact that they took shelter in a small room in the railway station rather than the air raid shelter, which received a direct hit. (Even Churchill had been embarrassed!)

<https://www.dhm.de/lemo/kapitel/der-zweite-weltkrieg/kriegsverlauf/bombardierung-von-dresden-1945.html>

shelter, which received a direct hit.

With great difficulty, they journeyed out of the city on foot and arrived, with the help of road transport, in Michelau on February 16. As the KUEBARTs only had the clothes they stood up in, he twice journeyed back through Dresden to replenish their wardrobe, on one return journey visiting his parents, then at Rottelsdorf, near Eislöben.

During their stay at Michelau, the KUEBART family lodged with a priest, Decan DEGENE, at Horst Jessel Platz 4(?) After a few days, however, KUEBART's wife and children moved over to stay with Frau HANSEN who lived at an address in the town which KUEBART asserts he had forgotten.

FILINGS

KUEBART claims that he had some 15,000 marks at this time in his possession.

KUEBART OBTAINS EMPLOYMENT

In the beginning of April, 1945, KUEBART obtained employment on a farm (Gut Trieb) in the neighbourhood of Michelau, the farm being owned by a cousin of STAUFFENBERG's. Although not paid for this employment, he received his board and was given foodstuffs.

REIGN OF TERROR

In the beginning of April, 1945, as the Americans were rapidly approaching Michelau, somewhat of a reign of terror overtook the town, and many civilians and soldiers were hanged for failure to render proper resistance to the Allies. The Mayor of the town, a Party member and holder of the Nazi Gold Medal, after considerable discussions and partly following KUEBART's advice, ordered publicly that resistance to the Allies should not be offered in Michelau. His order was, however, ill-timed and somewhat premature for it must have come to the ears of the Werewolves or similar resistance bodies, as the Mayor was seized and taken off to Lichtenfels, where he was said to have been hanged.

ARRIVAL OF U.S. FORCES

On April 13, 1945, U.S. armour arrived at Michelau and a round-up of serving soldiers took place which KUEBART managed legitimately to evade since he had in his possession his Certificate of Demobilisation.

During the American occupation, he continued working on the farm as previously, but owing to its being situate some 2½ Kms. from Michelau he decided to approach the American authorities with a view to obtaining a pass for this purpose.

KUEBART IS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY BY THE AMERICANS

On April 24, 1945, KUEBART finally elected to approach the Americans for this pass and also to make enquiries of them at the instructions of Frau HANSEN concerning the fate of her husband.

At U.S. Headquarters, he gave his personal particulars, mentioning his dismissal from the Army following the events of July 20. This evoked some interest. He was then invited to accompany a U.S. Captain to Coburg, whence, after a brief stay of an hour when his personal particulars were recorded, he was taken to a U.S. Officers' Mess

With great difficulty, journeyed out of the city on foot and arrived, with the help of road transport, in Michelau on February 16. As the Kuebarts only had the clothes they stood up in, he twice journeyed back to Dresden to replenish their wardrobe, on one return journey visiting his parents, then at Rottendorf, near Eisleben

During their stay in Michelau, the Kuebart family lodged with a priest Decan Degretz, at Horst Wessel Platz 4(?) (this latter was a Nazi hero name, which logically had been changed soon) After a few days, however, Kuebart's wife and children moved over to stay with Frau Hansen who lived at an address in the town which Kuebart asserts had forgotten. (May we assume that Kuebart himself stayed on the Decan's address?)

(AOB, however, the fact that the Kuebarts found shelter at Hansen's place, was actually for the Hansen family a real burden, as they did not trust Kuebart at all, suspecting him being an S.D. agent, infiltrating the Hansen family sphere. Quite understandable – as Kuebart survived and Hansen did not; and he was (still) free to go!)

Finances.

Kuebart claims that he had some 15,000 Reichsmark at this time in his possession.

Kuebart obtained employment.

In the beginning of April, 1945, Kuebart obtained employment on a farm (Gutsbetrieb) in the neighbourhood of Michelau, the farm being owned by a cousin of Stauffenberg's. Although not paid for his employment, he received his board (Unterkunft?) and was given food foodstuffs (Essenswaren).

Reign of terror.

In the beginning of April, 1945, as the Americans were rapidly approaching Michelau, somewhat a reign of terror overtook the town and many civilians and soldiers were hanged for failing to render proper resistance to the Allies. The mayor of the town, a (Nazi) Party member and holder of the Nazi Gold medal, after considerable discussions and partly following Kuebart's advice, ordered publicly that resistance to the Allies should not be offered in Michelau. His order was, however, ill-timed and somewhat premature for it must have come to the ears of the Werewolves or similar resistance bodies (AOB, think of SS) as the mayor was seized and taken off to Lichtenfels, where he was said to be hanged.

Arrival of the U.S. Forces.

On April 13, 1945, US armour arrived at Michelau and a round up of serving soldiers took place which Kuebart managed legitimately to evade since he had in his possession his Certificate of Demobilisation.

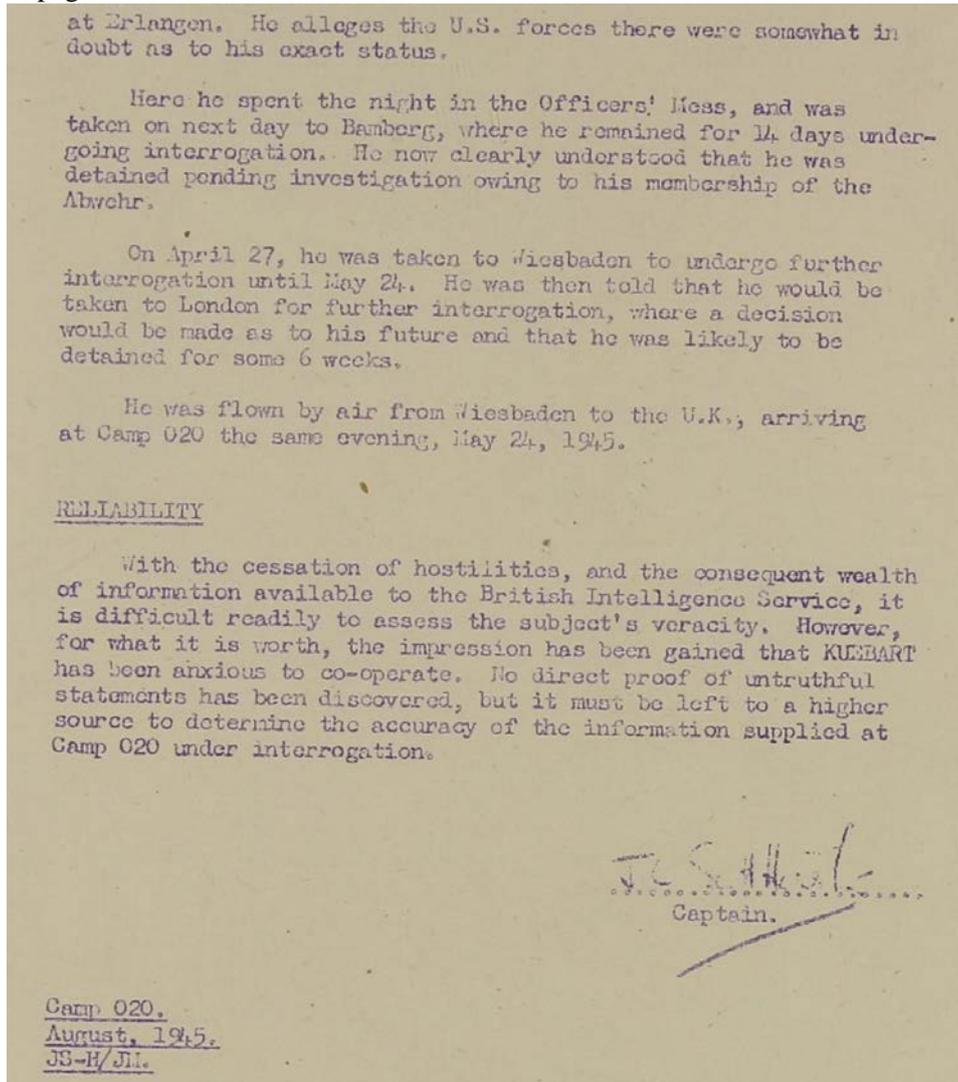
During the American occupation he continued working on the farm as previously, but owing to its situate some 2.5 kms from Michelau he decided to approach the American authorities with a view to obtaining a pass for this purpose.

Kuebart is taken into custody by the Americans.

On April 24, 1945, Kuebart finally elected to approach the Americans for a pass and also to make inquiries of them at the instructions of Frau Hansen concerning the fate of her husband.

At the U.S. Headquarters, he gave his personal particulars, mentioning his dismissal from the Army following the events of July 20. This evoked some interest. He was then invited to accompany a U.S. Captain to Coburg (at bit south of Michelau), whence, after a brief stay of an hour when his particulars were recorded, he was taken to a U.S. Officers Mess at Erlangen (near to Nürnberg) ..





.. He alleges the U.S forces there were somewhat in doubt as to his exact status.

Here he spent the night in the Officers Mess. And was taken on next day to Bamberg, where he remained for 14 days under going interrogation. He now clearly understood that he was detained pending investigation owing to his membership of the Abwehr. (the Allies considered first the Abwehr being a criminals-of-war organisation; which later was re-considered, as they being not)

On April 27 (Hitler holds still out in his Berlin bunker) he was taken to Wiesbaden to undergo further interrogation until May 24. He was then told that he would be taken to London for further interrogation, where a decision would be made as to his future and that he was likely to be detained for 6 weeks. He was flown by air from Wiesbaden to the U.K. arriving at Camp 020 the same evening, May 24, 1945.

Reliability.

With the cessation of the hostilities, and the consequent wealth of information available to the British Intelligence Service, (M.I.6), it is difficult readily to assess the subject's veracity. However, for what it is worth, the impression has been gained that Kuebart has been anxious to cooperate, Not direct proof or untruthful statements has been discovered, but it must be left to a higher source to determine the accuracy of the information supplied at camp 020 under interrogation August 1945. (the disadvantage of early investigations)