

1938

Joined Nazi student group, 1 April 1938. (Joined while at the Consular Academy.)

Joined mounted unit of SA, 18 November 1938.

1939

Entered military service, 15 August 1939 - served on Eastern front in a reconnaissance unit.

Served in 45th Infantry Division as staff intelligence officer with rank of lieutenant. Division saw action in Poland, France and in USSR (starting June 1941). (Comment: Other reports note Waldheim's assignment to the 45th Reconnaissance Battalion of the 45th Infantry, later Volksgrenadier, Division.)

1940

A request to continue his law studies. Lists his SA membership. (Or, did he only remain a member until he joined military service in August 1939?)

Waldheim received officer training in Berlin before outbreak of World War II (was it 1940?), according to his own testimony.

Waldheim served in Poland (1939 or 1940?), he reported. He also said he did non-combat service in France.

1941

Hospitalized 18 December 1941. (His own story is that he received a wound in the leg on Eastern Front, USSR, near Orel.)

Waldheim said he served in Reconnaissance Section 45 of the Upper Austrian Division when he was wounded at Orel.
(Comment: Probably the 45th Reconnaissance Battalion of the 45th Infantry Division which was the re-numbered 4th Austrian Division following the Anschluss and was later re-termed the Volksgrenadier Division.)

1942

Returned to duty, mid-March 1942 (from hospitalization).

14 March - assigned to Army Command (it was then Army Command 12), headquartered in Salonika. (Comment: Another source indicated the Army Command moved from Athens to Salonika in June 1942.)

Between March-July, spent time in Croatia.

Waldheim said he was appointed to "Combat Group" West Bosnia as an interpreter in April 1942, followed by immediate assignment as a liaison officer to an Italian unit 200 kilometers away in Montenegro (but documents indicate this liaison group had been disbanded 2 months earlier).

9 September 1942 - awarded medal by Utasha (Croatian Fascists) for "brave conduct" in battles against partisan units in central Yugoslavia in spring and summer, 1942. General Stahl recommended him for the medal. (Other report said he received the decoration, Order of the Crown of King Zvonimir, in July 1942.)

Acknowledges serving on Lohr's staff in 1942 and 1943.

Sent to Belgrade shortly after the 14 March assignment, where apparently served as Italian-German interpreter in Yugoslavia and Albania in 1942 and 1943.

Waldheim signed an intelligence report on 2 July 1942, on "bandits".

The award (July 1942) was earned "under enemy fire".

German and Croatian documents show that the Zvonimir medal awarded Waldheim on 22 July 1942 was awarded to only 3 German officers--out of some 20,000 German soldiers in that campaign.

(Hertzstein) - Waldheim involved in action against Yugoslav partisans in West Bosnia in July 1942 (operation involved 20,000 Axis troops in Kozara mountains north of Banja Luka). 714th Infantry Division was involved in the operation. German history for this Division's participation in operation lists 30 names, headed by Stahl and including a Lieutenant Waldheim.

Waldheim is listed 25th on a list of 34 German participants in the Kozara campaign on an honor roll of the official division history. (Comment: Possibly the 714th Infantry Division, or, as otherwise known, 114th Jager Division.)

1942 (Continued)

Document dated 31 July 1942 lists Waldheim as an interpreter with the intelligence division of the German 12th Army staff.

(Captured, no date, German document.) A unit called "03" responsible for briefing the General Staff of Army Group E. "03" unit headed by a First Lieutenant Waldheim and a First Lieutenant Poliza, with Waldheim eventually becoming sole chief. Waldheim was, in this capacity, in charge of interrogation of prisoners, including Americans and British, as well as Greeks and Yugoslavs. (A personnel chart listed Waldheim as sole chief of 03 intelligence unit and numbers among unit's duties "sauberung" (cleansing operations) and "vetnehmung" (interrogations). (Comment: "03" was often the designation of the Abwehr officer second in command to the chief of the Abwehr unit.)

Waldheim admits he was in the territory of Kozara at the time "Operation Kozara" took place (presumably 1942).

Member of the operations staff of a combat group which planned and executed the "Kozara Operation" (presumably 1942).

Waldheim claimed to have been in Vienna to finish his studies from mid-November 1942 until early April 1943.

Waldheim claimed he went on study leave in mid-November 1942 to write a thesis. German military records show he was in Salonika throughout December 1942.

Alteration in memo to DOJ by Gerhard Waldheim said Waldheim left Salonika in mid-November 1942 and "returned via Tirana, in early July 1943".

Waldheim admits (April 1986) he served with the German army in Yugoslavia and Greece from April 1942 until the end of the war in 1945.

Yugoslav document said while Waldheim served at Army Group E's high command headquarters at Arskli near Salonika from late 1942 to October 1944, he supervised and participated in the interrogation of prisoners.

1943

Late March 1943, went to Salonika (Gen Lohr)

15 March, deportation of 46,000 Jews of Salonika began
(Waldheim claimed to be 6 kilometers out of Salonika)

Was interpreter and ordnance officer for Lohr (Waldheim's claim). (Comment: According to German OB, ordnance officers were a regular part of the ordinary Abwehr set-up at Army Group, Army and Division levels. See other item below.)

May 1943, "Unternehmen Schwarz" (Black Operation) against partisans began.

22 May 1943, photo of Waldheim with 3 high-ranking Italian and German officers at an air field in town of Podgorica (now Titograd), Yugoslavia. Waffen SS General Artur Phleps in photo. (Phleps was commander of 7th SS Volunteer Division "Prinz Eugen".)

Israel Singer, secretary-general of WJC, said that a year after Waldheim's participation in Bosnia, Yugoslavia "cleansing operation", he was made a Nazi intelligence officer.

Carl Mang (presumably still living) said he was in Tirana, Albania with Waldheim from April to the beginning of July 1943.

March to July 1943 - when the deportation of Salonika's Jews took place.

Photo (released by WJC) said to show Waldheim relaxing with 15 German officers in an Athens hotel in 1943.

Waldheim claimed (see 1942) he was in Vienna from mid-November 1942 to early April 1943. Immediately sent to Tirana to be interpreter with Italian Army.

Waldheim claimed to be third ordnance officer of Heersgruppe E (date?).

Macholz (former supervisor of Waldheim) claimed recently (1986) that Waldheim was assigned to Tirana, Albania in April 1943 and sent back to Salonika at the end of June 1943. Another article indicated that Waldheim was in Tirana until July 1943 as ordnance officer and translator (but possibly same original source).

1943 (Continued)

Waldheim changed stories (in the two memorandums surfaced by his son, recently) saying he was in Salonika on 31 March 1943 and "late March or early April 1943" but then changed in the second memorandum to note that he returned to Salonika "via Tirana in early July 1943".

8 August 1943, Waldheim kept the daybook for his army group, noting that "bandits" (partisans) captured in battle are to be shot.

22 September 1943, Waldheim reported to Salonika by telephone from Athens, stating that a deportation of 25,000 Italians was complete.

By 1 December 1943, at the latest, Waldheim was working as the third-ranking officer in the intelligence department (known as Ic) attached to The High Command; official title for this position in all Ic units was Third Ordonnanzoffizier.

Another report indicated that Waldheim was known to be in Salonika in early April 1943, mid-July, August and in December, 1943.

Waldheim talked to a German officer, Frey, in Salonika by phone from Athens after the Italian Government had surrendered to Allies, talking about disarming and rounding up Italians serving with German forces in Greece (telephone transcript). Transcript dated 22 September 1943.

1944

Waldheim's spokesperson (Trauttmansdorff) said Waldheim entered a hospital near Vienna in early March 1944 and stayed there until 29 March 1944.

A Greek-born man, now living in Israel, claimed that on 25 March 1944 Waldheim helped round up Jews in Greek town of Ioannina for transportation to Germany's death camps (doubtful).

Waldheim says obtained Doctor of Laws degree in April 1944, after which he returned to Yugoslavia.

Waldheim received his degree on 14 April 1944.

U.S. Army List: "Combined Registry of War Criminals and Security Suspects" said Waldheim served as a staff intelligence officer from April 1944 to May 1944 with Army Group E.

Yugoslav document (dated December 1947) said he worked in Ic of "E" Army Headquarters from April 1944. (Same document said testimony on Waldheim's war crimes in Yugoslavia came from Johann Meier, his "close associate in the unit").

An Army task of organization (U.S.?) says that Waldheim's assignment from April 1944 until end of the war was to keep track of POW interrogations and "special tasks".

Waldheim was purported to have handled (initialed one) two reports dated 24 and 26 April 1944 noting results of interrogations of seven British commandos and three Greek Resistance fighters captured 5 April 1944 while trying to conduct raids on Aegean Islands. These reports came out of Salonika (Group ICAO). 26 April report asked higher authority if prisoners should be handed over to SD. 27 April reply instructed ICAO to turn over most of prisoners to SD for "special handling", euphemism for execution. (Another report says what could be Waldheim's initial appeared on interrogation reports of at least nine captured British commandos.)

28 April 1944 letter (SECRET) went to Waldheim's unit (Waldheim there or not?) asking the unit to contact the SD to arrange for evacuation of 2,000 Jews remaining on island of Corfu. On 15 July, another message went to the unit describing deportation of Jews on Rhodes and Crete.

Meeting on 20 May 1944, reported, re effective use of hostages on a train in the Peloponnesus. Waldheim should have seen. (Comment: Another report says he briefed General Lohr's staff.)

1944 (Continued)

Report re 13 June 1944 and forced labor of civilians. Waldheim should have seen.

Two documents, one dated 15 July 1944, the other 11 August 1944, discussing in specific terms the deportation of Greek Jews, had been addressed to Waldheim's intelligence unit.

July 1944, "W" (presumably Waldheim) initialed a report on the disposition of the capture of two other British commandos and an American medic.

18 July 1944, Waldheim reported in the daybook on the interrogation of Greek partisans.

Report of a meeting on 9 August 1944, success of SS police operations "Operation Viper". Waldheim should have seen. (Another report says he himself reported on this operation.)

Waldheim signed report of 11 August 1944 (Nuremberg Document NOKW-935) described a "cleansing operation" by forces in Waldheim's command, two days after he identified area south of Iraklion, Crete, as one in which partisans were active. Suggested reprisals, too.

Waldheim says not in area of villages burned during German retreat in 1944 because he among several Army Group E staff officers who were evacuated by airplane to vicinity of Mitrovica, about 200 miles north of these villages, on 13 October 1944, a week before settlements were burned.

October (?), Waldheim signed a report recording the death of 739 "bandits" in October 1944 and the capture of only 63 weapons.

12 October 1944, signed two intelligence reports pinpointing Stip-Kocane area, Yugoslavia, as "bandit" area (partisans). 1947 Yugoslavia War Crimes Commission report charges that during his group's retreat to Northern Yugoslavia, he was involved in burning of three villages (named) between Stip and Kocane. (This was Army Group E. One of the two documents bears Waldheim's signature noting that report issued on Warnstorff's behalf.) Supposedly, infantry company commander Captain Karl-Heinz Egberts-Hilker testified to Yugoslavia that reprisals here were part of Waldheim's responsibility.

1944 (Continued)

22 September 1944 document reports on instructions issued by the ICAO at Waldheim's headquarters: "Deportation of Jews: End of July 1944." According to the document, execution of the command was given to the intelligence section of the SS storm troopers.

Waldheim was in Sarajevo in November 1944 (Mayer said he bore responsibility for two atrocities there, according to an execution order given by Waldheim).

Waldheim accused by Johann Mayer, a clerk in his division, of ordering executions of persons in Sarajevo in November 1944 as reprisals for desertion from the German Army of other persons. (Mayer died in 1971.)

German Army newspaper of December 1944 puts Waldheim and Lohr, other officers, in Sarajevo. The paper is Wacht, dated 3 December 1944 (Wacht im Svdosten).

Klaus Melinschoff, a special missions staff officer with Army Group E accused Waldheim (in the 1948 Yugoslavian war crimes report) of applying reprisal measures, the same as high-ranking German officers.

21 March 1979 French Military Government Archivist report, giving Waldheim's military career chronology, said he served until 1944.

Waldheim acknowledged (date?) he was the designated "O3" of the ICAO unit (date?). U.S. War Department study describes this post as "The deputy of the chief intelligence officerresponsible for all operational intelligence and control of the intelligence staff."

According to Yugoslav document (December 1947), war criminal Egbert Hilker stated that Waldheim could be held responsible for burning of three villages and killing of 114 people on road between Kocane and Stip in Macedonia (presumably refers to 1944).

Sharon -

I had this chronology done up as an aid to present/future interest in comparing Waldheim's supposed assignments and wartime locations with any classified or other info that might become available on the same subject (not that there is likely to be very much). It might have value if it could be filed in W's 201, if only to help future researchers have on hand a background study useful for comparison's sake and as a record of his whereabouts. Is that possible? Perhaps you could discuss with DMB, if necessary, but I tend to think it could be helpful. Also, on the other hand, as I noted earlier, there is a fair amount of material already in W's 201 which, in my view, should be taken out since it has no index/historical/operational significance. Defer to your judgment on this.

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