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SAFE FILE: SABOTEURS

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Saboteurs

Boyd

WALTER REED GENERAL HOSPITAL
ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 14, 1942.

SUBJECT: Disposal of Bodies of Six Saboteurs.
TO: The President of the United States.
THROUGH: Chief of Staff, United States Army.

1. On August 8, 1942, at 4:15 P.M., in accordance with previous secret arrangements, the bodies of:

Herbert Hans Haupt
Heinrich Harm Heinok
Edward John Kerling
Hermann Otto Neubauer
Richard Quirin
Werner Thiel

were brought to Walter Reed General Hospital from the District Jail in two Army Medical Center ambulances. Major Robert S. Higdon, Medical Corps, was in charge of the ambulance detail. The bodies were identified by Colonel Martin F. DuFrenne, Medical Corps, and Major Thomas M. Rives, Assistant Provost Marshal, D. C., who accompanied them from the execution room. Individual name tags were attached to the bodies and they were receipted for by Colonel Paul A. Schule, Medical Corps, of the Walter Reed Hospital Laboratory Section.

2. The six bodies were stored in individual compartments of the refrigerating room at the hospital morgue. An armed guard was present in the morgue day and night until the bodies were removed, to insure that the boxes were unopened and the bodies not seen by any unauthorized person. On the evening of August 10, 1942, each body was embalmed in the hospital morgue by Mr. William G. Durisoe of the Tabler Funeral Home, Incorporated, in the presence of Major Carl J. Lind, Medical Corps, of the Hospital Laboratory Section.

3. At 6:00 P.M., August 11, 1942, the bodies were placed in individual plain pine boxes, identified by name tag, and taken in a light truck, accompanied by Major Lind, Major Harland W. Layer, Medical Administrative Corps, and three armed guards to the Potters Field, Blue Plains, D. C.

4. A detail from Fort Myer, under the direction of Captain Josiah T. Showalter, Medical Corps, had prepared the graves. The bodies were receipted for by Mr. Otto J. Cass, Superintendent of the Home for the Aged and Infirm and

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Potters Field. Each box was identified to correspond with the stake to be erected above that individual grave. A combined Protestant and Catholic burial service was provided by Chaplain (Lieutenant Colonel) Charles D. Trexler, Protestant, and Chaplain (First Lieutenant) Edward J. McTague, Catholic. The six bodies were buried at 7:30 P.M., August 11, 1942, and the numbered stakes without names were placed above the graves in the following order;

- 276 - Richard Quirin
- 277 - Heinrich Harm Heinck
- 278 - Herbert Hans Haupt
- 279 - Edward John Kerling
- 280 - Hermann Otto Neubauer
- 281 - Werner Thiel

The precautions taken were such that no information has been given out and no photographs taken during any stage of these procedures so far as known. All concerned with the disposition of the bodies have been warned concerning need for secrecy both present and future.

S. U. Marietta
S. U. MARIETTA,
Brigadier General, Medical Department,
Commanding.

Office Chief of Staff - August 15 - 1942
1st Ind.

A copy of this report will be shown to the Secretary of War and to the Chief of Staff and then filed in the 'secret' files of The Adjutant General's Office.

John W. Stearn
Colonel, G. S. C.
Secretary, General Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE

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Re Saboteurs ←

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Record of trial of Haupt,
Heinck, Kerling, Neubauer, Quirin,
Thiel and execution of sentence.
Tried by Military Commission by order
of the President, July 2, 1942, for
sabotage, etc.

N. M. Rigdon
St. n. n.

To be placed with
President Roosevelt's
Map Room Records