

## Prisoners of War and the German High Command

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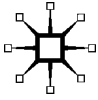
The British and American Experience

Vasilis Vourkoutiotis

*University of Ottawa*

*Canada*

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# Foreword

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# List of Abbreviations and Terms

BA-MA	Bundesarchiv-Militärarchiv
BAB	Bau- und Arbeits-Bataillone: prisoner-of-war labor battalions
Dulag (Luft)	Prisoner-of-war transit camp (airforce)
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IMT	International Military Tribunal, <i>Trial of the Major War Criminals before the International Military Tribunal</i> , 42 vols. Nuremburg, 1947–9.
Kgf	<i>Kriegsgefangenen</i> , prisoner of war
Marlag	Navy prisoner-of-war camp
MMC	Mixed Medical Commission
MOC	Man of Confidence
NAC	National Archives of Canada
NARA	National Archives and Records Administration, Washington DC
Oflag	Prisoner-of-war camp for commissioned officers
OKH	Oberkommando der Heer (German Army High Command)
OKL	Oberkommando der Luftwaffe (German Air Force High Command)
OKM	Oberkommando der Kriegsmarine (German Navy High Command)
OKW	Oberkommando der Wehrmacht (German Armed Forces High Command)
PRO	Public Record Office of the UK
RM	Reichsmark, the former standard monetary unit of Germany
SAO/SBO	Senior American Officer/Senior British Officer
Stalag (Luft)	Prisoner-of-war camp for soldiers (airforce personnel)
WASt	Wehrmacht-Auskunftsstelle (Armed Forces Information Office for prisoners of war)
WK	Wehrkreis (Military District)
WUSt	Wehrmacht-Untersuchungsstelle (Armed Forces War Crimes Office)



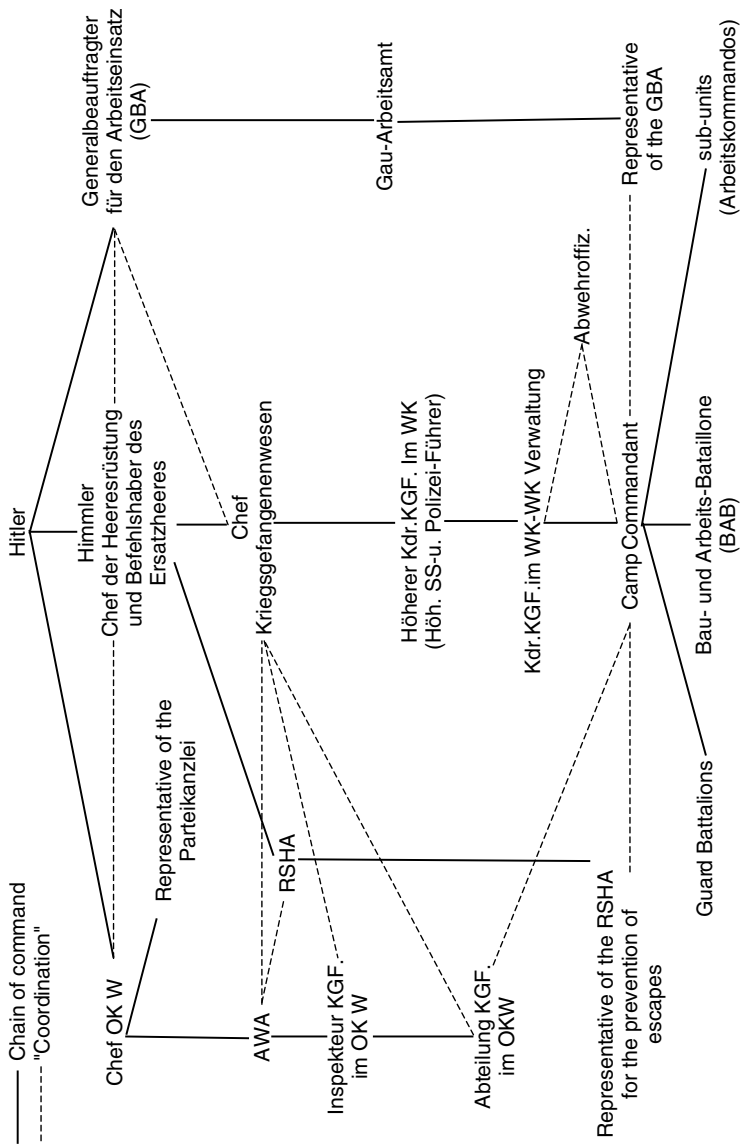


Figure 1 Organizational chart of Germany's prisoner-of-war administration, Oct. 1, 1944



Figure 2 Wehrkreise – German military districts, with regional headquarters

“ ... What I want to understand is this. You were a Field Marshal, standing in the boots of Blücher, Gneisenau, and Moltke. How did you tolerate all these young men being murdered, one after the other without making any protest? ... You were a Field Marshal, Kesselring was a Field Marshal, Milch was a Field Marshal, all, I gather, with military training behind them and all having their influence if not their command, among the Armed Forces of Germany. How was it that there was not one man of your rank, of your military tradition, with the courage to stand up and oppose cold-blooded murder [of captured Allied commandos]? That is what I want to know.” – *British Prosecutor at Nuremberg, Sir David Maxwell-Fyfe*

“I did not do it; I made no further objection to these things. I can say no more and I cannot speak for others.” – *the Defendant, Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel* (IMT, vol. 10, pp. 643–4)