

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE NEW ORDER

SPECIAL ISSUE - WALLONIA

(PART II)

Grégory Bouysse



In this second book¹ are included the officers of the least known formations : the NSKK (12 officers), the Garde Wallonne (19 officers²), the *ReichsArbeitDienst* (10 officers)³ and the SD (2 officers). And, for sure, 192 biographies of the most important NCO (*Standarten-Junker* included) and soldiers (10 strangers) of the Légion Wallonie. And finally, Germans officers and many appendices (organization charts, listings, documentation, etc.).

First and foremost, I thank Jean-Pierre Pirard (André Liénard), a precious support person who always shares his information and help without limit. Having taken care of reading the records, I also thank him for the dozens of photos from his private collection. I also thank the association du “Dernier Carré” for their additional information. But also Theo Verlaine and Eddy De Bruyne for their help with some biographical details. Finally, I thank the collectors and descendants of volunteers who opened their private collections.

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Books of the author :

-*Encyclopédie de l'Ordre Nouveau – Histoire du SOL, de la Milice Française & des mouvements de la Collaboration volume 1* », june 2016, Lulu.com

-*Encyclopédie de l'Ordre Nouveau – Histoire du SOL, de la Milice Française & des mouvements de la Collaboration volume 2* », september 2016, Lulu.com

-*Encyclopédie de l'Ordre Nouveau – Histoire du SOL, de la Milice Française & des mouvements de la Collaboration volume 3* », décembre 2016, Lulu.com

-*Encyclopédie de l'Ordre Nouveau – Histoire du SOL, de la Milice Française & des mouvements de la Collaboration volume 4* », april 2017, Lulu.com

-*Encyclopédie de l'Ordre Nouveau – Histoire du SOL, de la Milice Française & des mouvements de la Collaboration volume 5* », september 2017, Lulu.com

-*Encyclopédie de l'Ordre Nouveau – Histoire du SOL, de la Milice Française & des mouvements de la Collaboration volume 6* », april 2018, Lulu.com

-*Encyclopédie de l'Ordre Nouveau – Histoire du SOL, de la Milice Française & des mouvements de la Collaboration volume 7* », august 2018, Lulu.com

« *Encyclopedia of the New Order – French in German uniform part. I : Officers of the Waffen-SS* »⁴, november 2018, Lulu.com

-*Encyclopedia of the New Order – Special Issue – Wallonie (Part II)*, january 2019, Lulu.com

-*Waffen-SS Français volume 1 : officers*, april 2011, Lulu.com (unavailable since the release of « Encyclopedia of the New Order – French in German uniform part. I : Officers of the Waffen-SS »)

-*Waffen-SS Français volume 2*, september 2011, Lulu.com

-*Légion des Volontaires Français, Bezen Perrot & Brigade Nord-Africaine*, avril 2012, Lulu.com

-*Waffen-SS Wallons volume 1 : officers*, may 2013, Lulu.com (unavailable now)

1 The second volume will only be available on Lulu.com, and not on Amazon, etc !

2 42 officers of the Garde Wallonne will serve as officers in the Légion Wallonie, and are therefore included in the first category.

It should be noted that there are at least two officers missing, Major Torne (briefly Commander of the Garde at its creation, in October-November 1941), and Capitain « Dendelaere » (probably false spelling, mentioned briefly in « For Rex and for Belgium »). We do not know anything about these two officers.

There was too a certain capitaine Gheel, recruiting officer in Lille, but almost nothing is known from him, and if he ever really served in a combat unit.

3 Some officers of these secondary formations have served in Légion Wallonie (often with an officer rank), so we include them in the category « Légion Wallonie », the main study subject of this book.

4 Part II and III of these sery will be available on Lulu.com only. For commercial reasons, it is possible that only a French version will be released.

ADDENDA VOLUME 1

Oscar MATHIEU

-His name is probably « Mathieu », and not « Mahieu » (source : official list of the wounded of the Legion at Gromowaja-Balka, february 1942).

SUMMARY

II. SD Officers

LAMBINON Charles
VERVLOET Marcel (LW NCO)

III. Garde Wallonne Officers

Louis CAPOUILLEZ Louis
DEPAIRE G.
DUBUISSON Paul (W-SS NCO)
HASTIR Célestin
HENNEBICQ André
Le GORLOIS Serge (W-SS NCO)
LÉGER Marc
MARCHAND Charles
MÉNAGE Louis (W-SS NCO)
MEUNIER Georges
PROVÉ Albert
PUISSANT Rodolphe
SOSMAN Edouard
SOTTIAUX Maurice
TARAGOLA Oscar
TRICOT François
Van MELLE André
VARLEZ Louis
WEBER Émile (NSKK Officer)

IV. NSKK Officers

AUGUSTIN Joseph
COLLARD Léon (LW EM)
ISTAZ Jules (LW EM)
LEMMERS Paul
MANGUETTE José
PEETERS Charles
PETIT De THOZÉE Jean (LW NCO)
RYELANDT Jacques
VIELVOYE Pierre
WAUTHY Jean
WIJNEN Franciscus (W-SS NCO)
WILLEMS Égide

V. SVTW / RAD Officers

ANDRÉ Antoine
BOURLET Maurice
CLUDTS Joseph
CONSTANT Albert
FRANCOIS Auguste
HAELBRECHT Gaston
PUT Guillaume
QUOIDBACH François

Van CRAEN Pierre
VERHIEST Raoul

**VI. NCO & Enlisted Men of the Wallonische-Infanterie Bataillon 373 / 5. SS-Freiwilligen-Sturmbrigade
« Wallonien » / 28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »**

ABRASSART Jean
d'AOUST François
ARDOZ Abel (S)
AVART Jean
BADJOU Émile (H) (RAD Officer)
BADOT Théophile (H)
BARBIER Jean-Baptiste
BASTIN Louis
BAUGNET André
BAUJOT Joseph (H) (RAD Officer)
BAYART Georges
BECQUART Jean
BERCKMANS Henri
De BIE François
BILTRAYS Charles
BLAVIER Georges
BLONDIAU René (H)
BONNET Martial
BOVY Pascal
BRASSEUR Camille (H)
BRISSA Émile
BROSSEL Mathias (H)
BUREAU Jacques (S)
CABARET Émile
CALVI Arthur
CHAPEAU Maurice (GW NCO)
CHAVANNE Gaston
CHAVANNE Jacques
CHENOT Yves (H)
COLLARD Arsène
COLMAN Jean (H)
COPPÉE Jacques
COSYNS Alfred
CRÉPIN Léon
CUS Oscar (H)
DAMIANI Corradino
DANLY Jean
DARAS Émile
DASSY Adrien
DASSY Auguste (H)
DEBBAUDT Jean-Robert
DEBRUXELLES Henri
DECLERCQ Henri
DELCOMMINETTE Jules
DELRUE Gilbert
DENIS Fernand
DENIS Lucien
DENYS Henri (H) (RAD Officer)
DEPRET Roger (NSKK)
DERHET Victor
DESCAMPS Walter (H)

DESHRIVJER Robert
DESMUL Fernand
DEVAUX Lucien (RAD Officer)
DEVREUX Max
DEZUTTER Jean (H)
DIÉPART Joseph (S) (LVF Officer)
DIEU Louis (H) (RAD Officer)
DOHET Carlos
DOHLEN Victor
DONNERS Marcel
DREUMONT Raymond (H) (RAD Officer)
DRUART Raymond (GW NCO)
DUBOIS Jean (H)
DUPONT Henri (GW NCO)
DUPONT Léon (H)
DUQUESNE Edgard
EVERARD Omer (H) (RAD Officer)
FALCQUE Alfred
FARINE Émile
FAUCONNIER Joseph (H)
De FELSENEER Léopold (H)
FOUCART Léon
FRAIKIN Ernest
FRISSCHEN Jean
FROMENT Louis
FUNKEN Jules (H)
FURNELLE Jean (H)
GENIN Robert (H)
GÉRARD Jules (H)
GILSON Joseph
GOHY Edmond (H)
GUELTON André
GUYOT Nicolas
d'HAESE José (H)
HANCISSE Pierre
HANOT Albert
HAVAUX Marc
HAVET Maxime
d'HAYER Jules
HELLIN Léon
HENDRICKS Fidèle
HENROTAY René
HENRY Marcel
HERMANS André
HOBÉ André
HUBOT Édouard
HUSTINCX Jean (H)
JADOUL Sylvain
JAFRATTE Léonard (H)
JAUCOT Aimé
JEHAY Albert (H)
KAISERGRÜBER Fernand
KAISON Lambert
KEHREN Paul
De KEYSER René
LADRIÈRE René
LAFORGE Louis

LAFUENTE (S)
LAITAT Jean
LAMBERT Alfred (H)
LAMBERT Lucien
LAMBORAY Georges
LANDUCCI Hector
LARUELLE René (H)
LECOMTE Fernand
LEKEUX Jean
LEMPEREUR André (H)
LEMPEREUR Maurice
LENOBLE Florent (H) (RAD Officer)
LÉONARD Charles
LIÉBART Pierre
LOMBAES Pierre (H)
LORIAUX Maurice
LOUPART Yvan
De MAEYER Frédéric
MAHIEU Albert
MALISSART Pierre
MANNAERT Roger
MASSET Servais
MERLOT Henri
MEZETTA Paul
MICHAËLIS Jean
MICHAUX Léon
MIGNON Joseph
MIGNON Lucien
MINET Pascal (H)
MOLHAN Albert
MOREAU Ernest
MOREAU Henri
MOREAU Pierre
MOTTE Léon (H)
MÜLLER Égide
MÜLLER Émile
NICOLAS Marcel (H)
NILE Ernest
NIX Raphaël
NOLLET Jules (H)
PHILIPPET Henri
PHILIPS Georges
PIERRARD Jacques (H) (RAD Officer)
PIESSEVAUX Georges
PIGEON Roger (H)
PIROT Daniel
De PONTIÈRE Fernand
POULET André
QUOIDBACH Gérard
QUOIRIN Jean-Pierre
RELICK Paul (H) (RAD Officer)
RENOTTE André (H) (RAD Officer)
RICHARD Louis (H)
ROLAND Raoul
ROSE Gaston (RAD Officer)
SACCO François-Joseph (H)
SACHNOWSKY Nicolas

SACHNOWSKY Pierre
SARTILLOT Louis (H) (RAD Officer)
STEENEBRUGGEN Alphonse (H)
STEURS Franz
STOUPINE Leonid (S) (H)
STRAGIER Frédéric
STROJNOVSKY Alex (S)
THÉAGÈNE Jean
THEWISSEN Henri
THIRIONNET Raymond
THIRY Franz
THONON Georges
TILBURGHS Raymond
De TOURTCHANINOFF Marcel (S)
VALADES Manuel (S)
Van Der STRAPPEN Édouard (H)
Van HORREMBEKE Jean-Alphonse
Van ISSCHOTT Émile
Van LEEUW Raymond
Van LIERDE Maurice (H)
VERHIEST Raoul
VERNIERS Rémi
VILLERS Georges (H) (*Kreisleiter*)
VRYMAN Charles
WERELDS Léo
WITTAMER Raymond (H)
WOUTERS Charles (H)

APPENDICES

- I. Organizational chart
- II. Some numbers...
- III. List of the holders of the *Eiserne Kreuze*, *Ritterkreuz* and *Deutsches Kreuz*.
- IV. List of the SS-PK
- V. Liste of the promotions of Bad Tölz and Kienschlag.
- VI. List of officers whose promotion to the higher rank -20 April 1945- is not certain.
- VII. German officers attached to the Walloon Legion
- VIII. Some foreign volunteers of the Legion Wallonie...
- IX. Some of the political and paramilitary chiefs of Rex
- X. Declaration of Beverloo

Bibliography & Sources

II. SD OFFICERS



Charles LAMBINON

SD-Obersturmführer
Chef du Département de Sécurité et d'Information de Rex



Charles Lambinon was born on December 7, 1911. Member of Rex, leader of the party's protocol. Attempts to commit to the Legion Wallonia on March 10, 1942. But he is retained in Belgium, by order of Degrelle.

Chief of the Département de Sécurité et d'Information from July 1943. Only composed of Lambinon and Vervloet (and a secretary), Rex's internal police is expanding at the end of the year⁵. It is became particularly active from June 1944, guilty of looting and crimes.

Refugee in Germany in September 1944, Lambinon is chosen by Degrelle⁶ to organize the *Sonderkommando Wallonien*⁷, at Breslau-Lissa. Desiring to escape Degrelle's authority, Lambinon moved his unit to Marburg on October 14, 1944, with more or less thirty of his men. He then enters the service of the SD, with the rank of *Obersturmführer*⁸.

During the offensive of the Ardennes, Lambinon and some men infiltrate as spies in the Ardennes, until Houffalize. They take the opportunity to visit prisons, courts and others to collect documents on anti-rexists militants. Hearing the presence of Lambinon and his spies in the Ardennes, Degrelle immediately ordered their extraction from the combat zone.

In March-April 1945, Lambinon completed the training of three sabotage groups⁹. None of them will be put into action. He left Marburg with his small group in mid-March 1945, due to the violent bombing, and

5 DSI, created in March 1943. First settled in Brussels (13 place Rouppe), then in all the main cities of Wallonia. Missions : fight against political opponents, refractory to compulsory labor, deserters from collaborationist movements, Jews, parachuted allies, etc.

The DSI consisted of :

- Brigade Z : Bruxelles (15 agents)
- Brigade A : Louvière (18-20 agents)
- Brigade B : Charleroi (18 agents)
- Brigade C : Huy (5 agents)
- Brigade D : Braine-l'Alleud
- Brigade F : Mons (5 agents)
- Brigade H : Namur ; forming from June 1944.

Arrests from January to June 1944 : 492.

6 Reluctantly, he seems, but with no one else on hand.

7 Some 75 Walloons soldiers.

8 Lambinon deputy is Paul Lespagnard, agent of the SD (V-Mann) in Arlon (province of Luxembourg). The latter becomes one of the assistants of Lambinon as part of the *Sonderkommando Wallonien* in Germany. Captured near Munich on January 23, 1946, sentenced to death and executed on June 3, 1948.

9 Group Téléphone (two men, one woman), Group Ardennes (three men) and Group Meuse (three men). Trainings take place at Kolbe, Wetter-Niederwalgeren et Marburg.

left for Weimar. Lambinon leaves the group and returns to Hildesheim on a motorcycle. His intention being to get hold of the funds amassed by Rex.

At the end of April 1945, Lambinon fled to the north of Italy with his men. Unlike the latter, he passes through the cracks, and totally disappears in May 1945. According to some sources, he would have resided for a while in a convent in the Marseille region. He is sentenced to death in absentia at Namur, and deprived of his nationality on 11 June 1947.

Marcel VERVLOET

SD-Untersturmführer
Chef d'état-major du Département de Sécurité et d'Information de Rex
Adjutant / Feldwebel

Promotions :

Adjutant / Feldwebel (L.W.)
SD-Untersturmführer

Marcel Vervloet¹⁰ was born on May 9, 1919. Chemist, he enlisted the Legion Wallonie on August 8, 1941. Demobilized at the beginning of 1943, with the rank of *adjutant*¹¹. He was probably for some time platoon chief within the 4th company.

Chef d'état-major of the Département de Sécurité et d'Information, and member of the Brigade Z. Involved in various retaliatory operations (Wavre, Courcelles, etc.). Refugee in Germany, he becomes deputy of Charles Lambinon at *Sonderkommando Wallonien*, with the rank of *Untersturmführer*. He is responsible for courses in political economy, history and geography.

Lambinon and Vervloet leave Marburg in mid-March 1945. Vervloet goes to Italy in the last days of April 1945. He disappears in the nature, and will never be found¹².

10 Sometimes named « Claude ». It is mistake.

11 Source : « Les Commandos wallons d'Hitler », Eddy De Bruyne.

12 In « Moi Führer des wallons », he is said to have fled with his wife, leaving his men to their fate.

III. GARDE WALLONNE OFFICERS



Louis CAPOUILLEZ

Lieutenant / Oberleutnant (G.W.)

Louis Capouillez was born on May 19, 1920. Draftsman, enlisted to the Garde Wallonne at an unknown date (probably quite late), as a *lieutenant*. Shot on December 5, 1944 in Liers, probably because of his role in the anti-maquis operations of summer 1944 (retaliation in Ougrée on August 31, 1944, following the attack on a member of the Garde).

G. DEPAIRE

Capitaine / Hauptmann (G.W.)

Ex-officer of the Force Publique (colonial troops in Congo), enlisted in the Garde Wallonne as *capitaine*¹³, commander of the 2nd company of the Ist Battalion of the instruction center of the Garde, à Maria-ter-Heide, on November-December 1941.

He was appointed commander of the battalion in December, replacing Major Varlez. He seems to have left this post in March 1942, when the center is transferred to Contich and placed in the hands of German officers.

Paul DUBUISSON

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer
Aspirant / Oberfähnrich (G.W.)

Ranks :

Maréchal-des-logis : 01.09.1939

Sergent / Unteroffizier (Garde Wallonne) : 11.03.1942

Adjudant-chef / Oberfeldwebel (G.W.) : 01.06.1943

Aspirant / Oberfähnrich (G.W.) : 01.06.1944

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer : October 1944¹⁴

Paul Dubuisson was born January 19, 1917. Carpenter, militiaman at the *Régiment de forteresse de Namur* in 1936. Recalled in August 1939, as *maréchal-des-logis*. Enlisted to the Garde Wallonne on February 2, 1942, and nominated NCO a month later, and assigned to the 1st company in Liège. In 1943 he was *adjudant-chef* at the training center of the IInd Battalion. In 1944 he was assigned to the staff company in Brussels, then named platoon leader in Mons, as an *aspirant*.

Joined the « Wallonien » Division in October 1944 as an instructor at the school-company of the Grünenplan training center (later moved to Delligsen).

13 Source : biography of Célestin Hastir in « Encyclopédie de l'occupation, de la collaboration et de l'Ordre Nouveau en Belgique francophone ».

14 It is possible he gets a higher rank later.

Célestin HASTIR

Sous-lieutenant / Leutnant (G.W.)

Ranks :

Adjudant / Feldwebel (Garde Wallonne)

Sous-lieutenant / Leutnant (G.W.) : 1942

Célestin Hastir was born on September 13, 1918. NCO at the *1st Régiment de Ligne* in 1940. He enlisted to the Garde Wallonne among the first, in 1941, as platoon leader at the 4th company, at the training center of Maria-ter-Heide.

Become *adjutant-major* (deputy) of *capitaine* Depaire on January 24, 1942, and promoted officer shortly thereafter. Transferred to Contich training camp in April 1942, as a disciplinary measure (instructor of the 5th training company). Detached in Bruay-Thiers-Lagrange. Demoted from the Garde in May 1943, following black market business.

He will then be part of the *Hilfsgendarmerie* of Neufchâteau. His wife is murdered in retaliation. Arrested after the Liberation, he managed to escape during his transfer on January 21, 1945. Resumed shortly thereafter, he was shot on February 13 in Namur.

Serge LE GORLOIS

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Sous-lieutenant / Leutnant (G.W.)

Commandant de Flamme des Formations de Combat (Tervuren)

Serge Le Gorlois was born on June 9, 1908 in Petrograd, Russia. *Commandant de Flamme* of the Formations de Combat in Tervuren. He then directs the Section B (Administration) of the F.C staff of the IInd Etendart. He resigned in March 1943, at the same time as Chief Constant.

He will then join the Garde Wallonne and will become an officer. He joined the « Wallonien » Division in October 1944 and did not appear to have completed the Sophienwalde accelerated officer course from October to December 1944.¹⁵

André HENNEBICQ

Lieutenant / Oberleutnant (G.W.)

André Marie Hennebicq was born on June 25, 1913 in Saint-Gilles, near Brussels. Tradesman in Saint-Gilles, enlisted in the Garde Wallonne, of which he was an officer¹⁶. Deprived of the Belgian nationality on June 4, 1948.

¹⁵ It can be deduced that he simply remained *Oberscharführer*. The rank to which the Garde's officers were transferred to the Waffen-SS.

¹⁶ Simply quoted as « officer » in « Encyclopédie de l'Occupation, de la Collaboration et de l'Ordre Nouveau in Belgique francophone » of Eddy De Bruyne.

Marc LÉGER

Lieutenant / Oberleutnant (G.W.)

Marc Léger was born on April 24, 1899. NCO in the Belgian army. Enlisted to the Garde Wallonne as an officer, he was commander of the 4th company (IIth Battalion) of the Garde (beginning 1944), based in Seneffe. He does not seem to have exiled to Germany at the Liberation.

Charles MARCHAND

Lieutenant / Oberleutnant (G.W.)

Ranks :

Adjutant / Feldwebel (Garde Wallonne)

Sous-lieutenant / Leutnant (G.W.) : 24.03.1942

Lieutenant / Oberleutnant (G.W.)

Charles Marchand was born on March 27, 1923. He joined the Garde Wallonne on February 2, 1942, as *adjutant*, commander of the 5th company of the training center. He was promoted to *sous-lieutenant* on the next month.

He is commander of the 4th company of the training center in Namur, from October 1943 to at least current 1944. He is suspended following retaliation against the pastry shops Trinquenaux of Namur¹⁷.

Louis MENAGE

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Lieutenant / Oberleutnant (G.W.)

Louis Menage was born on March 23, 191_. Member of Rex since the pre-war period, he joined the Garde Wallonne on November 3, 1941. He finished *lieutenant* (or maybe *sous-lieutenant*) of this corps, and he was dismissed on August 16, 1944, for refusing to take an oath to Hitler.

After a brief passage through the Formation B, he escapes to Germany, and he is enlisted in the « Wallonien » division, as a simple cook¹⁸.

¹⁷ Details not known. Quoted by Eddy De Bruyne in his encyclopedia.

¹⁸ Probably *Oberscharführer*, but it is not certain.

Perhaps he had no rank, given his secondary position of cooker. The case of Ménage is particular, since he was excluded from the Garde...

Georges MEUNIER

Lieutenant / Oberleutnant (G.W.)

Georges Léopold Louis André Meunier was born June 28, 1902. *Lieutenant* of the Belgian army, committed to the Garde Wallonne, he is commander (from November 17, 1941) of the 3rd company of the training center of Maria -ter-Heide. He was in 1943 the commander of the 4th company (IInd Battalion) of the Garde¹⁹. This unit is responsible for guarding the canal locks between the cities of Brussels and Charleroi.

Leaves probably the Garde late 1943 at the latest.

Albert PROVÉ

Lieutenant / Oberleutnant (Garde Wallonne)
Commandant de Flamme des Formations de Combat

Albert Prové was born on March 15, 1917. Medical doctor, *Commandant de Flamme* of the Formations de Combat. Appointed to the Garde Wallonne on August 29, 1942, as medical officer of the IInd Battalion.

He is then head of the Sports and Health Department of A.D.E.W. (Association des Etudiants Wallons).

Rodolphe PUISSANT

Capitaine / Hauptmann (G.W.)

Rodolphe Puissant was born on January 20, 1893. *Commandant* in the Belgian army, he enlisted in the Garde Wallonne²⁰, and appointed commander of the 1st company of the Ist Battalion of the Maria-ter-Heide instruction center. He remains in the Garde until the end of February 1943 (post unknown).

Demobilized, he held a position at the External Service of the *Werbestelle* (office for manpower) of Nivelles. Shot with his wife at his home in Wavre on March 2, 1944, by three Russian partisans.

¹⁹ Quoted at this position in 1943.

²⁰ Possibly only with the rank of *capitaine*. His rank of *commandant* being unusable with the low manpower of the Garde...

Édouard SOSMAN

*Lieutenant / Oberleutnant (G.W.)
Commandant de Flamme des Formations de Combat*

Édouard Nicolas Sosman was born on March 18, 1920 in La Louvière. Trades beer merchant in Wavre, *commandant de Flamme* of the Formations de Combat, deputy to the staff of Ist Etendart. He will be in charge of the administrative direction of the F.C. in Germany.

Revoked on March 10, 1942, for refusing to enlist in the Legion Wallonie. Committed to the Garde Wallonne, as accounting officer of the Ist Battalion.

In 1944 he is part of the Formation B of Nivelles.

Maurice SOTTIAUX

*Sous-lieutenant / Leutnant (G.W.)
Légionnaire / Soldat (L.W.)
Commandant de Bannière des Formations de Combat*

Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

Garde (Garde Wallonne)

Sergent / Unteroffizier (G.W.) : 1942

Adjudant-chef / Oberfeldwebel (G.W.) : 1943

Sous-lieutenant / Leutnant : December 1943

Maurice Sottiaux was born on August 20, 1904. Musician in the 13th Régiment de Ligne, he was a member of Rex in the pre-war period. He was in charge of the recruitment and training of the members of Formations de Combat from October 1940, passing from the rank of *chef d'Enseigne* to *commandant de Bannière*.

Enlisted to the Legion Wallonie on August 8, 1941, he was demobilized in September. He then recruited for the Garde Wallonne, as a private and then a NCO. He was posted to the 5th company in Douai in February 1943, then to the Battalion of the Railways, in Charleroi, in the spring of 1943. Appointed officer in December 1943, he commanded the company of Charleroi (depending of the IInd Battalion).

A refugee in Germany, he is following a six-week internship at the Eickampf spying and sabotage center near Berlin. Shot on August 7, 1945, probably shortly after being captured behind the lines.

Oscar TARAGOLA

Capitaine / Hauptmann (G.W.)

Ranks :

Adjudant / Feldwebel (Garde Wallonne)

Lieutenant / Oberleutnant (G.W.)

Capitaine / Hauptmann (G.W.)

Oscar Taragola was born on October 12, 1896. Italian, he worked as a tailor. Enlisted to the Garde Wallonne as *adjudant*, he was firstly chief of the third platoon of the 3rd company until the end of December 1941, then he moved to the 1st company (Ath).

He became commander of the 6th company (Ist Battalion) in 1943. He ended the war as leader of the company of Tournai (probably the 6th company, affiliated with the IInd Battalion), to the rank of *capitaine*.

Refugee in Germany in September 1944, he refuses to be transferred to the Waffen-SS.

François TRICOT

Lieutenant / Oberleutnant (G.W.)

François Erminio Tricot was born on November 6, 1895 in Sarona²¹, Italia. Commander of the 3th company of the Ist Battalion of the instruction center, in à Maria-ter-Heide, until November 17, 1941 (day he is replaced by *lieutenant* Meunier)²², and he then takes the command of the 1st motorized company²³.

Sentenced to ten years of prison in 1947.

André Van MELLE

Lieutenant / Oberleutnant (G.W.)

Adrien Van Melle was born on October 9, 1916. NCO in the Border Guard. Engaged in the Garde Wallonne, as an instructor officer in the 5th company. He seems to have be the commander of the 5th company (IInd Battalion) until April 1944.

He then led the detachment of Beaumont-en-Artois, then the Railway Guard Battalion. During the summer of 1944 he participated in several expeditions against the maquis, including that of Ciney.

21 His name is maybe written as « Trico »...

22 According to Jean-Pierre Pirard it is possible that he committed to the Legion Wallonia in August 1941, and quickly demobilized.

23 His rank is not certain. Eddy De Bruyne does not mention it in his notice of his encyclopedia.

Louis VARLEZ

Major / Major (G.W.)

Louis Varlez was born on December 20, 1888. Retired major of Belgian army, he was candidate for the post of mayor of Rixensart. Enlisted to the Garde Wallonne, he was commander of the Ist Battalion of the training center at Maria-ter-Heide in November-December 1941. He was relieved of his duties on that date.

Émile WEBER

*Sous-lieutenant / Leutnant (G.W.)
NSKK-Sonderführer*

Émile Weber was born April 20, 1912. Innkeeper in Ixelles, he was arrested as suspected to be a member of the German police on May 10, 1940. He became a translator for the SD of Brussels in 1941, then committed to the NSKK on April 22 1942, as an instructor at Vilvoorde. In August 1942 he was transferred to Diest, as liaison officer of NSKK-Rex, then to Lille (he only had a rank of *Sonderführer*).

Passed the Garde Wallonne on March 20, 1944, as a *sous-lieutenant* (or maybe *lieutenant*). Posted in Namur, he performs at least one mission in Paris. Member of the Brigade Z in July-August 1944. Refugee in Germany, he works for the Gestapo of Rastatt.

IV. NSKK OFFICERS



Joseph AUGUSTIN

NSKK-Staffelführer

Joseph Hubert Victor Augustin was born on December 27, 1912 in Herstal (Liège province). Brother-in-law of Jean Gerits²⁴. Political chief of the NSKK-AGRA. Augustin is sacked when the NSKK-AGRA merges with the NSKK-Rex, to become the NSKK-Wallonie (July 7, 1943)²⁵.

Arrested in September 1943, following a case of disappearance of service seals. He was released in January 1944, he hid in his sister, and fled to the Liberation.

Léon COLLARD

NSKK-Sturmführer

Légionnaire / Soldat

Commandant de Flamme des Formations de Combat

Promotions :

Légionnaire / Soldat (L.W.)

NSKK-Sturmführer

Léon Collard²⁶ was born on April 17, 1899. *Commandant de Flamme* of the Formations de Combat, enlisted at the Legion Wallonie of August 8, 1941 (it seems without any rank). Reformed on September 9, 1941. He then goes to NSKK, where he becomes an officer. He left the organization on March 6, 1942.

Excluded from Rex on April 25, 1942 (he had been excluded from the Formations de Combat a few months earlier). He then worked for various services : the DWM until June 1944, then went to the *Werbestelle* (employment office for manpower).

Jules ISTAZ

NSKK-Sturmführer

Légionnaire / Soldat

Jules Istaz was born November 25, 1909. Employee, member of Rex and the Défense du Peuple. Secretary of the Rex-Sclessin section after the armistice, he left for the AGRA, which he was group leader in Ougrée, and then general treasurer, until his commitment to the Legion Wallonia, on August 8, 1941.

Demobilized in 1942, he became officer²⁷ in the NSKK-AGRA. Refugee in Germany after the Libération.

24 Leader of AGRA (*Amis du Grand Reich Allemand*) in 1943-1944. This Walloon National Socialist movement was Rex's main rival. He only recognized Hitler as leader.

It counted 2500 members at its peak, in 1942, 1500 in 1943, and 21 in the summer of 1944 ! This decline is due to the fact that Rex and the Sturmbrigade Wallonia had taken over, but also because of the embezzlements of some leaders of the AGRA.

25 During a ceremony in a barracks in the north of France, bringing together Jean Gerits and Léon Degrelle.

26 Not to be confused with another « Léon Collard », born in 1920, who was part of the Legion from 1942 to 1945.

27 Probably *Sturmführer*.

Paul LEMMERS

NSKK-Sturmführer
Commandant de Flamme des Formations de Combat

Paul Lemmers was born on May 12, 1912. Navy officer, member of Rex (*Commandant de Flamme* of the Formations de Combat). He will be officer in the NSKK²⁸.

José MANGUETTE

NSKK-Sturmführer

Officer of the NSKK-AGRA, as a platoon chief²⁹ from December 1942. He is sent on a mission to Rostov. Dissatisfied with being sent to the eastern front (he had been promised a mission in France), he falsified the order of march for Kiev, and returned to Brussels with about fifty men. His superiors ask him for explanations. In March 1943 he is excluded from the ranks of the NSKK.

He is then employed in the Pieper establishments (weapons factory for the German armies), from where he will be dismissed for favoritism towards some workers.

²⁸ Probably *Sturmführer*.

²⁹ NSKK-AGRA counts only 81 soldiers in march 1942, and some sixty in may 1943.

Charles PEETERS

NSKK-Obersturmführer
Commandant régional des Formations de Combat

Ranks :

NSKK-Sturmführer

NSKK-Obersturmführer³⁰

Charles Peeters³¹ was born on January 18, 1898 in Antwerp (Antwerp province). *Adjutant* during the 1914-1918 war, he was seriously wounded at Ramskapelle on April 1, 1918. He lost an eye and received seventeen bursts in his leg. After the war he became director of censorship for the occupied area of the Ruhr. He then held several positions in the army until 1925³², where he resigns. He is then editor-in-chief of the « Société d'Etudes Politiques, Economiques et Sociales ». Sympathizing with Rex, he was expelled from his job in 1937 for speaking at a rexist meeting.

He then officially joined Rex as chief of Veterans Affairs of the party, and the local chapter of Rhode-Saint-Genèse. After June 1940 he is *commandant régional* of the Formations de Combat. In conflict with Fernand Rouleau, he was arrested by the SD of Brussels on September 26, 1940. Released on November 14, he was expelled from Rex in May 1941, and would not be reinstated until October.

Enlisted in the NSKK-Rex as a liaison officer in Vilvoorde. He was the unit's *adjutant-major* (deputy of Ryelandt, then Sloet d'Oldruytenborgh). He remains at the NSKK-Wallonie until the end of the occupation³³.

In September 1944 Peeters was transferred to the « Wallonien » division, as a social officer, to the *SS-Panzer grenadier Ausbildungs und Ersatz Battalion 36*. Note that he was probably not integrated into the Waffen-SS, and kept his NSKK rank and uniform. He is a recruiter in the labor camps of S.T.W. (Service du Travail Wallon), with Hstuf. Dengis and Leon Degrelle.



Peeters (in the middle), with Degrelle (on left)

30 Quoted as a *Staffelführer* (and *Sturmabführer* of the division Wallonien) in « For Rex and for Belgium ».

In « Moi Führer des Wallons » (page 174), he is quoted as a « lieutenant NSKK », in february 1945, when he was sent by Degrelle to recruit Walloon workers for the SS.

Given as *Sturmabführer* (unlikely) by Théo Verlaine in his book, which only confirms (correspondence with the author) that he has however passed through the depot battalion.

31 His name is sometimes written « Peters ». It is a mistake.

32 Especially in the 2th Bureau.

33 Also known with the nickname of « Carl Suzanne ».

Jean PETIT De THOZÉE

NSKK-Sturmführer
Adjudant-chef / Oberfeldwebel

Jean Petit De Thozée was born on February 15, 1920. Secretary at the *Secrétariat général* of Rex. Enlisted in the Legion Wallonie in 1941, as *adjudant-chef*³⁴. He loses an arm in fighting.

Then enlisted in the NSKK, he will have an officer rank³⁵. In 1944, he is a gunsmith of the Brigade Z, responsible for distributing weapons during expeditions. We lose his track after the war.

34 Source : « For Rex and for Belgium », of Eddy De Bruyne.

35 Probably *Sturmführer*.

Jacques RYELANDT

NSKK-Staffelführer



Jacques Ryelandt³⁶ was born on November 18, 1914 in Gand (Flandre-Orientale province). Career NCO. Engaged in the NSKK in 1941, he became the chief of the liaison service of the NSKK-Rex³⁷. Sacked in september 1943 maximum³⁸, replaced by Sloet d'Oldruytenborgh.

He then worked as a bodyguard for Jean Vandecasteele, Belgian Abwehr agent in France. A refugee in Germany in September 1944, he reportedly joined a spy school affiliated with Amt VI of the RSHA. Ryelandt died on April 24, 1950.

36 Sometimes called « Reylandt ». It is a mistake.

37 Service for the monitoring of social benefits and assistance to the families of the employees. It was sitting in Brussels, rue des Nerviens.

38 Because of his attitude during a visit to the Walloons NSKK engaged in the east during the winter of 1942-1943. Asking the volunteers if they wanted to renew their contracts, the majority refused, and Ryelandt, to punish them, removes them their winter clothes and weapons !

Pierre VIELVOYE

NSKK-Sturmführer



Pierre Lucien Vielvoye³⁹ was born on September 12, 1916 in Verviers (Liège province). Commander of the NSKK-AGRA company, in 1941-1942⁴⁰. Also known with the pseudonym of « Maurice Lanny ».

Jean WAUTHY

NSKK-Sturmführer

Jean Remacle Wauthy was born on June 12, 1917. He was first chief of Rex-Herstal, then head of the protection department of the *cercle* AGRA-Liège. He becomes *Sturmführer* in the NSKK-AGRA, perhaps as a platoon chief.

³⁹ Sometimes called « Viellevoye ». It is a mistake.

⁴⁰ Quoted at this position on March 20, 1942 (source : Eddy De Bruyne). The company counts then 81 soldiers.

Franciscus WIJNEN

*SS-Frw. Oberscharführer
NSKK-Sturmführer*

Franciscus Wijnen was born on July 9, 1907. Commercial agent in Antwerp, officer in the NSKK-Rex (column leader in Vilvoorde). Involved in the killing of Courcelles.

Refugee in Germany in September 1944, he is transferred to the « Wallonien » division⁴¹. Sentenced to death and shot on November 10, 1947 in Charleroi.

Égide WILLEMS

NSKK-Obersturmführer

Égide Agnès Marie Joseph Hubert Willems⁴² was born on November 27, 1920 in Liège (Liège province). Writing sports articles for the « Gazette de Liège » before 1940, under the pseudonym « Pierre Martel ».

Arrested in May 1940, released in January 1941. He was the liaison officer of NSKK-AGRA from August 1942 to May 15, 1943, in Vilvoorde⁴³.

41 Given his rank of officer in the NSKK, we can imagine that he was at least Oscha. in the SS, even if it is not a proof.

42 Sometimes named « Willem » by mistake. Auditorat of Belgium confirms « Willems ».

43 In the military auditorat of Belgium, he is quoted as « *SS-Obersturmführer* ». So he would have finished the Waffen-SS ? It is still unlikely, he is not quoted as Waffen-SS in any other source about the Division Wallonien !

V. RAD (SVTW) OFFICERS



Antoine ANDRE

RAD-Feldmeister

Antoine André, a member of Rex, is doing a RAD internship from March 15 to June 10, 1943, in Calw. Appointed cadet officer on March 1, 1944, as platoon leader at SVTW camp in Lasne. He was then head of the Garde Rurale for the district of Liège.

Maurice BOURLET

RAD-Feldmeister

Commandant de Flamme des Formations de Combat

Maurice Bourlet was born on September 5, 1917. He was a teacher by trade and was a member of the Faucons Rouges before the war. Member of the Formations de Combat since September 1941, appointed *chef d'Enseigne* in January 1943, commanding the 3rd Flamme of the 3rd *Bannière* of Charleroi.

From March 15 to June 10, 1943, he took a RAD course at the Calw school. At the end of the internship he is appointed head of the sports plain of Grand-Charleroi. From October to December 1943 he served in various SVTW camps (Villers-la-Ville, Lasne-Chapelle-Saint-Lambert and Herbeumont). He is transferred to the SVTW administrative office in Brussels. Named *Feldmeister* in July 1944.

Platoon leader at the STW camp in Bodenstedt, then commander of the Allerbüttel camp from December 1944 to March 1945. The camp was disbanded for lack of men, and he joined the Querum camp.

Joseph CLUDTS

RAD-Feldmeister

Joseph Cludts is *chef de Serment* of the Jeunesse Légionnaire. Appointed to the SVTW on August 1, 1944, he will be deputy commander of the school-camp of Querum, at the rank of *Unterfeldmeister*.

Albert CONSTANT

RAD-Oberfeldmeister
Chef d'état-major des Formations de Combat

Albert Constant was born on June 13, 1911. Member of Rex since 1936. Reserve officer, private secretary to a rexist deputy. He worked as a wholesale tobacco trader.

Mobilized in 1939 as a reserve sous-lieutenant at the 4th *Régiment de Chasseurs à pied*. He joined Formations de Combat in November 1940, where he was acting chief of the staff in march 1941. He became *inspecteur provincial* of the F.C of the Hainaut, with the rank of *commandant de Bannière*, then *commandant d'Etendart*, deputy of the administrative chief of the of the F.C for Wallonia. From June 1941 he led the IInd *Etendart* of the F.C. (districts of Mons, Liège, Verviers, Marche, Thuin, Philippeville, Huy, Bastogne, Neufchateau, Virton, Arlon).

Following an internship at the *Truppführerschule* IV of RAD, at Calw, from March 15 to June 10, 1943. Assigned to the camp of Uccle, he asks a layoff in July 1943, to work at the airfield of Florennes, as work supervisor. He returned to the SVTW in December 1943, and he was in charge of drafting a regulation of practice and evolutions for the SVTW education office.

Joined the SVTW camp of Lasnes in May 1944, as assistant. Nominated *Feldmeister* in June 1944, then *Oberfeldmeister* in September. He is chief of the STW camp of Querum from January 15 to April 1, 1945.

Auguste FRANCOIS

RAD-Unterfeldmeister

Auguste François was born January 31, 1920. Temporary editor at the ministry of Labor from December 1941 to June 30, 1942. He also wrote to the newspaper « Cassandre », with the pseudonym « Pierre François ». Follows an internship of the RAD in Miltenberg from April 20 to July 15, 1943. He is assigned to the SVTW camp of Villers-la-Ville, then in Lasne in January 1944. On January 31, 1944 he is transferred to the staff, section education.

On May 2, 1944 he was appointed deputy of Campé, responsible for the propaganda of the SVTW. Appointed aspirant in June 1944, he is the editor-in-chief of the newspaper « Le Pionnier ». Refugee in Germany, he collaborates with « l'Avenir » and « L'Effort Wallon ».

Gaston HAELBRECHT

RAD-Oberfeldmeister

Gaston Haelbrecht was born on July 31, 1894. Doctor, national chief of the Jeunesses Legionnaires and the Avants-Gardes, youth branch of the Légion Nationale. Radiated in April 1941, for having pronounced himself in favor of the Germans and the New Order.

He joined the Jeunesse Legionnaire rexiste, as 1^{er} *chef d'Enseigne* and head of the health department. He was transferred to the STW in September 1944 and appointed chief of the medical service at the staff.

Guillaume PUT

RAD-Feldmeister

Guillaume Put was born on March 17, 1907. Employee in Anderlecht, labor and socialist activist before 1940. He worked during the occupation for the Union des Travailleurs Manuels et Intellectuels (the main Belgian trade union after may 1940). He is in charge of writing articles. Detached to Rex's Social Studies Department in February 1944.

Then becomes SVTW officer (education department)⁴⁴. Appointed in september 1944 to the school-camp of Querum, teaching sociology.

François QUOIDBACH

RAD-Feldmeister

François Gaspard Quoidbach was born on September 10, 1924 in Schaerbeek, near Brussels. Member of Rex since April 1940, student, he committed to SVTW in April 1943. Follows an internship of RAD from April 20 to July 15, 1943, in Miltenberg. Appointed cadet officer on May 15, 1944.

Appointed foreman of the SVTW camp of Herbeumont, assigned to the Angleur camp, from July 10 to September 2, 1944. He then went platoon leader to the Bodenstedt camp. Transferred to Allberbüttel camp on February 20, 1945. He ended the war at Querum camp as a troop leader and instructor.

Sentenced after the war.

44 We don't know his precise rank.

Pierre Van CRAEN

RAD-Oberstfeldmeister

Pierre Van Craen was born April 14, 1912. Lawyer, he was *sous-lieutenant* in the 12th Régiment de Ligne in 1940. From April 1942 he organized the first camp of Walloon workers volunteers, in Angleur. He is also a teacher at the Naninne executive school.

From July 1942 to June 1943 he is head of the Uccle school-camp. He is one of the few SVTW executives to switch to SVTW under rexist control. He is head of the education office (with the rank of captain of the RAD), a position he retained after the exile in Germany, with the rank of inspector of the camps.

Raoul VERHIEST

RAD-Feldmeister

Raoul Verhiest was born on October 9, 1910⁴⁵. He fights in May 1940 in the 2nd Régiment de Carabiniers, as *caporal*. *Chef de cellule* of Rex-Carnières from 1941. Then he runs an SVTW documentation office.

He emigrated to Germany in September 1944. From January 15 to April 7, 1945, he leads the Querum school-camp. On April 7, 1945 the camp was dissolved by Leon Closset, and the members dispersed.

45 He has a namesake (born too in 1910), *adjudant* of the Légion Wallonie.

***VI. NCO & Enlisted Men of the Wallonische-
Infanterie Bataillon 373 / 5. SS-Freiwilligen-
Sturmbrigade « Wallonien » / 28.SS-Freiwilligen-
Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »***



Jean ABRASSART

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer
Chef de Cercle (Rex-Binche)

Ranks :

Sergent / Unteroffizier

Adjutant / Feldwebel⁴⁶

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer : 01.06.1943

Jean Marcel Abrassart was born on July 20, 1909 in Dour (Hainaut province). A pastry cook, he was a NCO in the Belgian army, and fought in 1940.

Chef de Cercle of Rex-Binche. Appointed to the Legion Wallonie in the summer of 1941 as *sergent*, decorated with the *KVK II. Klasse mit Schweren* on October 15, 1942.

He is taken prisoner in Cherkassy. He will not be repatriated from Belgium until July 1949, after having passed through the prison camp of Odessa.

⁴⁶ Quoted at this rank in the « L'Honneur Légionnaire » of March 1943 (listing the legionnaires decorated).

François d'AOUST

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

Sergent / Unteroffizier⁴⁷

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer : 1943

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

François d'Aoust was born in 1919 in Arlon (Luxembourg province). Pastry worker, member of the Formations de Combat. Enlisted of the August 8, 1941 contingent, with his two brothers, Jean and José, and their father François. Assigned to the 1st company.

Appointed *sergent*, he was wounded in the Caucasus in the autumn of 1942. Decorated with the *Sturmabzeichen infantry* on 10 September 1942. He was nominated *Oberscharführer* in 1943, chief of the second platoon of the 1st company of the Sturmbrigade.

Platoon Leader at the 5th company of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 « 't Serclaes de Tilly »*. Sentenced after the war.



The three d'Aoust brothers, 1941.

⁴⁷ Quoted at this rank in March 1943.

Abel ARDOZ

Waffen-Hauptscharführer der SS

Abel Ardoz⁴⁸ is a veteran of the Spanish Civil War, and the Azul division. Chief of the fourth platoon⁴⁹ of the 3th company of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 70 « Bucquoi »*⁵⁰.

Jean AVART

SS-Frw. Sturmmann
Chef de Cercle (Rex-Charleroi)

Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

Caporal / Gefreiter : 10.02.1942

SS-Frw. Sturmmann : 01.06.1943

Jean Avart was born on May 31, 1914. A merchant, he joined the Legion Wallonie in August 1941. Demobilized, he was appointed *chef de Cercle* of Rex-Charleroi in mid-June 1942, a position he held until 27 March 1943. In February 1944 he moved to Rex's Political Department, as deputy referent, in charge of detecting enemies of the regime. He will be involved in several assassinations of opponents in 1944⁵¹.

A refugee in Germany, he was probably part of the *Jagdverband Nordwest*. He was arrested in Namur on May 17, 1945. Sentenced to death, he was shot on August 18, 1948 in Charleroi

Émile BADJOU

RAD-Feldmeister
Légionnaire / Soldat

Émile Badjou was born on July 10, 1919 in Liège. Employe of the Post, secretary of district of Rex-Liège in 1940-1941. Enlisted in the Legion Wallonie on August 8, 1941⁵². Demobilized at an unknown date.

Following the RAD training at Miltenberg, from April 20 to July 15, 1943. He became an officer of the SVTW in 1944, and finished the war as a platoon chief at Ohrum camp.

48 His name is sometimes spelled « Ardoos » (this name seems non-existent in Spanish). According to Jean-Pierre Sourd, it is « Abelardo Ardoz ».

49 According to Albert Steiver, Ardoos was the chief of the fourth platoon of the Spanish company, platoon formed later. Information confirmed by Jean-Pierre Soud in « True Believers ».

50 This company was made up of Spanish volunteers from the division, recruited by Léon Degrelle in the autumn of 1944.

51 Including that of the director of the University of Labor Charleroi (J. Hiernaux), the mayor of Saint-Amand-lez-Fleurus (Dumont de Chassart). Source : Eddy De Bruyne in his encyclopedia.

52 His sister Renée was *cheftaine provinciale* of the Jeunesse Féminine Rexiste for Liège province.

Théophile BADOT

Caporal / Gefreiter

Théophile Badot was born in 1920 in Molenbeek, near Brussels. Enlisted on the August 8, 1941 contingent, assigned to the 1st company. Win the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on May 21, 1942, and promoted *caporal*. Sentenced after the war.

Jean-Baptiste BARBIER

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer



Ranks :

Caporal-chef / Obergefreiter

Sergent / Unteroffizier

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Jean-Baptiste Barbier⁵³ is a minor worker, a communist activist who has become a rexist. He joined the Legion Wallonia in August 1941, to see the reality of the « Soviet paradise », and soon became one of the most ardent and popular NCO of the Legion. Will be decorated with the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on September 8, 1942. Demobilized after the Caucasus.



53 A ne pas confondre avec Marcel Barbier, mort à Irdyn en décembre 1943.

Joined the « Wallonien » Division at the autumn of 1944, as *Hauptscharführer*. Chief of platoon at the 7th company of *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 « 't Serclaes de Tilly »*. Awarded the *Iron Cross 1st Class*⁵⁴. Sentenced after the war.

Louis BASTIN

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer



Ranks :

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer⁵⁵

Louis Bastin was born on September 1, 1913 in Châtelet (Hainaut province). Lawyer, resist, engaged of August 8, 1941 (registration number 298). In early 1943 he was in charge of recruiting volunteers for the Legion in the prison camps.

Chief of battery firing at the 7th company from June to September 1943, he is then chief of the second platoon of the 6th company (FLAK) of the *SS-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »*, from September 1943 to January 1944. He then passes judicial officer of the Sturmbrigade (replacing the German Wiltberger). He had the rank of *Oberscharführer*.

Assigned to office III (military justice) of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*. Dies in Spain in the 1970's.

54 Source : correspondence with Jean-Pierre Pirard.

55 Promotion not certain (in 1944 or begin 1945).

André BAUGNET

SS-Frw. Sturmmann



Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

Caporal / Gefreiter : 10.06.1942

SS-Frw. Sturmmann : 01.06.1943

André Jules Alfred Baugnet⁵⁶ was born on January 24, 1920. Enlisted of the August 8, 1941 contingent. His main goal is then to join England as soon as possible ! He participates in the first campaigns of the Legion. Wounded during the advance in Kuban in 1942. He is evacuated and hospitalized for a long time.

In 1943, after the Legion passed to the Waffen-SS, he was one of the first Walloon volunteers to join the unit's PK team. He was first assigned to the *SS-Hauptamt* as assistant to the liaison officer in Berlin, Jean Vermeire. He is one of the cartoonists in the magazine « Le Combattant Européen », which later became the « Le Combattant SS » in July 1944.

After his capture in 1945, he was repatriated to Belgium. Baugnet has a special attitude to his former combat partners to reduce his sentence to the maximum...

He died on January 29, 2007.

⁵⁶ Sometimes spelled « Baugner ». It is a mistake.



Baugnet (in the iddle) with the team of the newspaper « Le Combattant Européen ».

Joseph BAUJOT

RAD-Feldmeister
Sergent / Unteroffizier
Commandant de Flamme (Rochefort)

Joseph Baujot was born on July 26, 1917 in Namur (Namur province). Apprentice watchmaker, member of Rex since 1936. *Commandant de Flamme* of the Formations de Combat of Rochefort. He participated in the May 1940 campaign.

Enlisted of August 8, 1941. Won the *Iron Cross IInd Class* after the fighting on the river Samara, on November 19, 1941. He was therefore the first Walloon to have received the Iron Cross ! Demobilized to the rank of *sergent*, he returned to Belgium in February 1943.

Predicted to take the lead of the SVTW. He will be dismissed from the post by the occupant, but still occupies an officer function in this formation (*Feldmeister*). In early 1944 he was platoon leader at the SVTW camp of Lasne. In 1945, he was head of the second platoon of workers at the W3 camp in Bodenstedt. In April 1945 he fled west with some of his men. Arrested April 23, 1945 on denunciation of a prisoner of war, and handed to the Americans seven days later.

Exiled in Argentina after the war, he accidentally kills himself on June 30, 1953, in a hunting party.

Georges BAYART

SS-Frw. Scharführer

Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat⁵⁷

SS-Frw. Scharführer

Georges Bayart⁵⁸ was born on December 23, 1921 in Wasmuel (Hainaut province). Enlisted from August 8, 1941 contingent, served with the 1st company of the Legion in 1941-1942, and won the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on March 2, 1942 (he lost an eye in the battle on February 27). He will then be an instructor.

From July 1943 to September 1944, he served at Sipo-SD Dinant. Evacuated in Germany in September 1944, he was transferred to the « Wallonien » division, to the rank of *Scharführer*. On the night of April 22 to 23, 1945, Derriks entrusts a mission to twenty men⁵⁹ : cover the withdrawal of some of the exhausted troops sent to Pomelen. The twenty-two volunteers were sent to Neu-Rosow on the morning of April 23, 1945, and repulsed several Soviet assaults in a few hours. At 4 P.M, only five are still valid⁶⁰.

He brought back Verpoorten's personal belongings to Belgium.

Jean BECQUART

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Jean Becquart was born on March 6, 1913. Candidate chemical engineer, he was a member of the Légion Nationale from 1931 to 1935. He became a storekeeper during the summer of 1940, in a German business. Co-founder of the Liege section of the « Défense du Peuple » movement (from which he was sacked in September 1941).

He then worked at the *Junkers-Werke* mills (in Courcelles) until mid-October 1942, when he joined the SS division « Wiking ». Transferred to the Sturmbrigade Wallonien at an unknown date, as *SS-Kriegsbericht*.

57 Quoted at this rank in march 1943, in « L'Honneur Légionnaire » listing the decorated légionnaires.

58 Spelled « Bayard » in the Théo Verlaine's book. The latter confirms (correspondence with the author) that he made a mistake.

59 Gustave Paquot, Albert Verpoorten, Jean Hallebardier, Roland Devresse, Roger Gondry, Hector Landucci, Bayard, Van Malderen, Quinaud and eleven others walloons.

60 Gondry, Devresse, Van Malderen et Quinaud and Bayart.

Henri BERCKMANS

Caporal / Gefreiter



Henri Berckmans⁶¹ was born in 1921 in Laeken, near Brussels. Horticulturist and gardener of Léon Degrelle.

Enlisted in the Legion with his boss on August 8, 1941 (number registration 283). Served in the 1st company in 1941-1942, decorated with the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on March 2, 1942, following the fighting in Gromowaja-Balka, where he was wounded. He died on 10 April 1942 in a hospital in Thuringia, as a result of his injuries.

François De BIE

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Inspecteur provincial de la Brigade Z du D.S.I. (Bruxelles)

François De Bie was born on October 21, 1916. Typographer in Woluwe-Saint-Lambert. He managed to join the Legion Wallonia in August 1941 (he had been reformed by the Belgian army). Probably demobilized in 1942. He was a member of the Brigade Z (code Z.6, pseudonym « Duval ») of Brussels in 1944, and took command of it. It included about fifteen agents in June 1944.

Transferred to the « Wallonien » division in September 1944⁶², he is taking radio operator courses in Sterzing. He is then a member of the *Siegfried Leitstelle*.

61 Sometimes called « Reickmans », by mistake. Especially in the list of EK II decorated legionnaires of February 28, 1942...

62 Probably as a NCO, but not certain.

Charles BILTRAYS

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Ranks :

Caporal / Gefreiter

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer : 1944

Charles Biltrays was born on July 23, 1906 in Schaerbeek, near Brussels. Enlisted to the Legion Wallonie in August 1941, as *caporal*. In March 1942 he was sent back to Belgium by Degrelle, in order to obtain the support of the royal entourage in favor of the Legion. Returning to the ranks of the Legion, he participated in the Caucasus campaign. Demobilized in 1943, he became head of « L'Honneur Légionnaire ».

Folded back to Germany in September 1944, transferred to the SS with the rank of *Oberscharführer*⁶³. Degrelle entrusts him, at the beginning of 1945, the rexist funds deposited with the *Wallonische Arbeitsgemeinschaft*. He would have been appointed Minister of Economy in case of a German victory⁶⁴ !

Biltrays dies at the beginning of the 1990's.



Biltrays (second from left), with Hermans, Degrelle, Vermeire and Lassois.

63 Not certain. Source : correspondence with Théo Verlaine.

64 Source : Théo Verlaine.

Georges BLAVIER

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Ranks :

Caporal-chef / Obergefreiter⁶⁵

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Georges Blavier⁶⁶ was born on April 12, 1917 in Marchienne-au-Pont (Hainaut province). *Chef de cellule* of Rex-Flawinne. Engaged of August 8, 1941 contingent, he served in the 4th company and was decorated with the *Sturmabzeichen Infantry* on September 10, 1942, and the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on October 15, 1942.

He commanded the first platoon of the 4th company of the *SS-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »*.

René BLONDIAU

Caporal / Gefreiter

Enlisted of the August 8, 1941 contingent. Appointed to the 4th company. Awarded the *Iron Cross 2nd Class* on July 15, 1942.

Martial BONNET

Sergent / Unteroffizier

Martial Bonnet was born on September 25, 1906. Automobile representative, member of Rex, he is personal driver of Degrelle. After May 1940 he was director of inspection and propaganda services at Rex Press. Enlisted to the Legion Wallonie on March 10, 1942, as *sergent*. Demobilized after the campaign of the Caucasus, because sickness.

He resumed his duties as inspector for « Le Pays Réel », and also took care of the « Oeuvre des colis » for legionaries. From December 1942 he headed the third section (intelligence, mobilization and demobilization) of the Service Légionnaire d'entre'aide et de protection aux familles (organization that managed the interests of all Walloons under German uniform, Legion Wallonie, Garde Wallonne, NSKK and Organization Todt). In March 1943 he returned briefly to the Legion, but was demobilized almost immediately.

Sent to Berlin in June 1943, to organize the subscriptions service of « L'Avenir » (he will be the administrator), and runs a bookstore for Rex. He held this position until the end of the war⁶⁷.

⁶⁵ Quoted at this rank in march 1943.

⁶⁶ In the organizational chart of Mabire/Lefèvre (« Léon Degrelle et la Légion Wallonie »), the first letter of his first name is « J. ».

ButThéo Verlaine and Jean-Pierre Pirard (correspondences with the author) confirm « Georges ».

⁶⁷ Source : correspondence with Jean-Pierre Pirard.

Pascal BOVY

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer



Ranks :

Adjutant / Feldwebel

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer : 01.06.1943

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer : 1944

Pascal Bovy was born in 1900 in Batice (Liège province). House painter, enlisted in the Legion as *adjutant* in 1941. Assigned to the 1st company, decorated with the *KVK II. Klasse* on November 15, 1942

Spiess of the 1st company of the Sturmbrigade in 1943-1944, to the rank of *Oberscharführer*. Decorated with the *Iron Cross IInd Class* after Cherkassy, he is promoted to the higher rank.

Deputy of SS-Ostuf. Bochinger at the military police (*Feldgendarmerie*) of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

Died in 1994.





Pascal Boyy (on the right), with a group of legionaries.

Camille BRASSEUR

Adjudant / Feldwebel

Commandant de Flamme des Formations de Combat (III^{ème} Bannière)

Camille Brasseur was born on November 1, 1910. Career military, he served in the *Régiment des Chasseurs à Pied* then in the *1^{er} Régiment des Gardes frontières*. Joined the Formations de Combat in May 1940, with the rank of *Commandant de Flamme*, commanding the *IIIth Bannière*.

Enlisted of August 8, 1941 contingent (registration number 822). Chief of the third platoon of the 2th company of the Legion. Killed on February 28, 1942 in the morning, defending the northwest position, during the Gromowaja-Balka fights.

Émile BRISSA

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer



Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer⁶⁸

Émile Brissa was born on August 17, 1918 in Gogelhey, Great Britain. Son of a reputed officer of the Belgian army. Engaged August 8, 1941, as a soldat.

Chosen in the summer of 1943 to become one of the first five Walloon *Kriegsberichtter*. Covers the campaign of Cherkassy, as *Bildberichtter*. He is then editor for « Le Combattant Européen ».

Joined Degrelle (with most of the Walloon PK) in Limerlé in the Ardennes, on December 24, 1944. He is sentenced after the war.

⁶⁸ Promotion date not known, but probably late (rank quoted by Eddy De Bruyne).

Mathias BROSSSEL

Sergent / Unteroffizier



Mathias BrosseL⁶⁹ was born on May 23, 1913 in Kettenis (Liège province), in the German-speaking part of Belgium. He settled in Liège in 1931, and joined the Légion Nationale. He then joins Rex shortly after the formation of the movement. Member of Formations de Combat of Verviers.

Engaged in August 1941 (registration number 299). Served at the 4th company of the Legion in 1941-1942, and won the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on March 2, 1942. Killed by a soviet sniper on June 11, 1942 in Birkanowo. He had the weakness to light a cigarette at night, and the sniper aimed his head.



BrosseL burial (on the right).

69 Named « Mathieu BrosseL » in the list of EK II holders of Gromowaja-Balka... His grave and his death notice give « Mathias BrosseL ».

Jacques BUREAU

SS-Frw. Schütze

Jacques Bureau was born on January 30, 1915 in Argenteuil (Seine-et-Oise department). Employee at the company Peru, in Mantes-la-Jolie. He was working in Berlin, in a foundry, in July 1942. Refusing to work at a steady pace if he has no more rations, he was announced to the German police, who imprisoned him in Moabit. Judged on September 17, 1942, he explained himself to the judges, but was still sentenced to forced labor in Russia for the duration of the war. He remains to carry out the criminal tasks, like the construction of roads in the swamps.

On October 16, 1943, the Belgians of the Sturmbrigade Wallonie, living not far from his working place, propose to Bureau and other workers, to join them. Bureau agrees with some comrades. He is employed as a chauffeur at the disposal of the small section of *Kriegsberichter* of the Sturmbrigade. He participates at the Tcherkassy's campaign, in February-March 1944. On April 7, 1944, he has a permission, and returned home, in Mantes, for three weeks⁷⁰.

Assigned to *SS-Standarte Kurt Eggers*, in Berlin-Zehlendorf. He became a driver for Belgian SS journalist Charle Vryman, accompanying him on his propaganda and recruitment tours across Germany. He deserted his unit in October 1944, knowing that his family was not in danger of reprisals. He hides for a month and a half at a German girl home in Berlin. He left this city in December 1944, and worked on different farms.

Surrendered to US troops in Bavaria, late April 1945, posing as a French deported. He proposes to help to supervise the deported returnees and prisoners of war, taking care of various tasks (supplies, guard, etc.). On May 23, 1945, his area came under the authority of the 2nd Division Blindée, he decides to reveal his past, and is arrested. Repatriated in France in July and imprisoned, he was sentenced to four years of forced labor by the *Cour de justice* of Seine-et-Oise, on January 30, 1946. He carries out his sentence at the prison of Le Vigan. Released on November 5, 1947⁷¹.

70 It appears that he was warned that if he did not return from leave on April 23, his father and his son would be shot (perhaps Bureau said this during his post-war interrogation to be complain).

71 Source : « Ces Franciliens qui ont choisi Hitler », of Bruno Renoult, where these informations are taken.

Émile CABARET

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Émile Cabaret was born on March 5, 1913. Platoon chief within the 2nd company of the *Kampfgruppe « Ruelle »* in Estonia, in August 1944. Sick since the beginning of the fighting, he decides to stand in reserve, and gives way. He was finally evacuated on August 25, 1944.

Cabaret commits suicide in the early 1990's.

Arthur CALVI

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Chef de Pays de la Jeunesse Légionnaire (Namur & Luxembourg)

Arthur Calvi was born on August 10, 1917 in Malonne (Namur province). Professional teacher. He served in 1940 as a *sergent* at the 13th *Régiment de ligne*. As a prisoner, he manages to escape and wins the St. Albert Institute, in Jodoigne, where he practiced his profession.

Sympathizing to Rex, he committed to the Legion Wallonia in August 1941. Injured by accident on February 28, 1942. He returned to the Legion and participated in the campaign of the Caucasus. Demobilized, he is affected to the Jeunesse Légionnaire, with the rank of *chef de Bannière*, in April 1943. Promoted 1st *Chef d'Enseigne* of the Jeunesse Légionnaire.

Chief of the Jeunesses Légionnaires of the Pays of Namur from May 1943, and head of the school of the executives. In September, the Luxembourg Jeunesse Légionnaire passes under his direction. He was seriously wounded in an attack on October 27, 1943. He recovered after several weeks of convalescence.

Refugee in Germany in September 1944, integrated into the division Wallonien, in the *Ersatz Battalion 36*. He will be sentenced after the war.

Maurice CHAPEAU

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Sergent / Unteroffizier (G.W.)

Maurice Chapeau was born on October 3, 1915. Enlisted to the Garde Wallonne as a *sergent*, chief of the third platoon of the 3rd company (Maria-ter-Heide training center) from the end of December 1941 to March 3, 1942. Fired from the Garde on April 21, for threatening to kill *sous-lieutenant* Bailly.

He re-engages in the Garde on July 23, 1943. Refugee in Germany in September 1944, and integrated into the *SS-Nachrichten-Abteilung 28* (transmissions) of the division⁷².

⁷² Probably as *Oberscharführer*, but it is not certain.

Gaston CHAVANNE

Sergent / Unteroffizier



Gaston Chavanne was born in 1921⁷³. Enlisted of the August 8, 1941 contingent⁷⁴. Killed on August 24, 1942 at Tcheryakow, at twenty years old. Decorated with the *Iron Cross IInd Class* (25.08.1942) and the *Winter Medal 1941-1942*. His body will be found only in october.



73 His father was Gaston Chavanne, permanent deputy of Rex from December 1940 to July 1942, then chief of the Service politique of Rex-Liège from April 1943.

74 His brother is Jacques Chavanne, enlisted too in the Legion.

Jacques CHAVANNE

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer⁷⁵

Jacques Chavanne⁷⁶ was born on May 6, 1923. Member of the Jeunesse Rexiste, enlisted of the March 10, 1942 contingent⁷⁷. Participates in the Caucasus Campaign. Demobilized in late 1942, he was attached to the cabinet of the mayor of Liège from January 1943.

He re-joins the ranks of the Legion at an unknown date. He becomes chief of the third platoon of the 1st company of the *Kampfgruppe « Derriks »* in March 1945, after Havet's injury. He himself gets injured, and let his platoon to Jacques Leroy.

Enlisted in the Légion Etrangère after the war, he served for almost twenty years in this corps, of which he left *adjutant* in 1964⁷⁸.



75 Only Eddy De Bruyne, in « Moi Führer des wallons », seems to say that « Oberscharführer » is the last rank got by Chavanne. Strangely, the rank of Chavanne is not mentioned in the other books.

Louis Fierens speaks about a « Chavannes » as his French colleague, whom he had the opportunity to meet on August 10, 1943. The author does not know if it is the same person...

76 Sometimes spelled « Chavannes ». Eddy De Bruyne, in « Moi Führer des Wallons », confirm « Chavanne ».

77 His brother is Gaston Chavanne, killed in action in 1942.

78 Some sources claim he was killed on November 2, 1950 at Philippeville, in Algeria. It is probably a mistake.

Yves CHENOT

Adjudant-chef / Oberfeldwebel

Ranks :

Adjudant / Feldwebel

Adjudant-chef / Oberfeldwebel : 01.04.1942

Yves Chenot was born on April 28, 1914 in Ixelles, near Brussels. Accountant and reserve NCO. Prisoner of war at Stalag XVIII, he was released on February 26, 1941.

Enlisted to the Legion Wallonie in August 1941 (number 14) as *adjudant*, he became head of the disciplinary platoon. Participate in the Caucasus Campaign. Demobilized and returned to Belgium to become head of Rex's financial department. Decorated with the *KVK II. Klasse* on November 15, 1942. In June 1943 he became head of the control and coordination department of Rex.

Leaked in Germany in September 1944, he headed the financial service of the Central Office for Evacuation. In March 1945, he made contact with the nuncio Orsenico in Germany, to give him a letter from Degrelle. The latter is asking the Vatican to intervene on behalf of the legionaries with the Belgian authorities.

He disappeared in April 1945 after evacuating Hildesheim's finance office in Springe. He lives in Paris for a while at his father's house, then teaches Latin at a Catholic school in Moulins. Exiled in Spain, in Pamplona, he founded a language learning school (*Academia Belgarum*). He obtains a passport thanks to the Vatican, and exiles in Buenos Aires, then Mendoza, in Argentina. He died there in 1985.



Chenot on the right.

Arsène COLLARD

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer



Ranks :

Adjutant / Feldwebel

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer : 01.06.1943

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Arsène Collard was born in 1887 in Cul-des-Sarts (Namur province). Representative of commerce, engaged of August 8, 1941. Head of the train of the 1st company. He becomes one of the most popular NCO in the Legion. Decorated with *KVK II. Klasse* on June 15, 1942.

Killed at Nowo-Bouda, in February 1944.

Jean COLMAN

Adjutant-chef / Hauptfeldwebel

Jean Colman was born on January 28, 1913 in Anderlecht, near Brussels. Employee. Made the campaign of May 1940, as *adjutant* at the 8th *Régiment de Ligne*. Enlisted to the Legion Wallonie in August 1941. Demobilized after Gromawaja-Balka, where he was wounded.

He served for a time at the Organization Todt and the NSKK, then became secretary of Marie-Louis Collard in 1943, at the staff of Rex. In 1944 he became head of the administrative department of the Political Department of the Chief of Staff. Involved in various repressive cases (killing of Courcelles, murder of Hiernaux, director of the University of Labor of Charleroi).

A refugee in Germany, he heads the Central Evacuation Office in Hildesheim, which is responsible for the moral and material interests of the refugees. He hides in France after the war, but is arrested in 1949.

Died in Seville (Spain) in 1996.

Jacques COPPÉE

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Jacques Coppée is on January 25, 1921 in Charleroi (Hainaut province). Student, enlisted on March 10, 1942. He became *SS-Kriegsbericht* in 1943. Wounded in action in December 1943.

In 1944-1945, he will be deputy chief of the platoon of Walloon war correspondents, under the orders of Chomé, and correspondent of the newspaper « Le Combattant Européen ». Sentenced after the war.

Alfred COSYNS

Sergent / Unteroffizier

Alfred Cosyns was born in 1918 in Aiseau (Hainaut province). Employee of restaurant, engaged of August 8, 1941 contingent (number 783). Serves in the 4th company from 1941-1942, and fights at Gromowaja-Balka, where he is injured in the kidneys. Win the *Iron Cross 2nd Class* on March 10, 1942. Died on April 12, 1942, as a result of his injuries.

Léon CREPIN

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer



Ranks :

Sergent / Unteroffizier

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer : 01.06.1943

Léon Crepin was born on 1913 in Clavier (Liège province). Serves in the 3th company of the Legion Wallonie, and win the *Iron Cross 2nd Class* on March 10, 1942. Wounded at Gromowaja-Balka. Later he will writes some articles for « Le Combattant Européen ».

Oscar CUS

Légionnaire / Soldat
Chef de Cercle (Rex-Centre)

Oscar Cus was born on September 18, 1906. Commercial agent in La Louvière, he was before May 1940 regional press inspector of Rex. *Chef de Cercle* of Rex-Centre, he committed to the Legion Wallonia on March 10, 1942. Demobilized on March 18, 1943, he re-integrates his functions of *chef de Cercle*. He was part of Formation A from April 1944. Refugee in Germany in September 1944.

Corradino DAMIANI

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Ranks :

Caporal / Gefreiter

Sergent / Unteroffizier

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer : 01.06.1943

Corradino Damiani was born in 1913 in Montigny-sur-Sambre (Hainaut province), in a family of Italian immigrants. Minor of the « pays Borain », engaged in the Legion Wallonia in August 1941. Serves in the pioneers platoon, at the rank of *caporal*, during the Caucasus campaign, as leader of a combat group. Decorated with the *Iron Cross 2nd Class* on July 2, 1942 in Donetz, and the *Sturmabzeichen Infantry* on September 10. Evacuated in November 1942.

Always assigned to the pioneers when going to the SS. He stands out by his ability to shoot mortar while standing (and his reputation as a woman lover) ! He fought at Cherkassy. Seriously injured in the lower abdomen by a mine, while attacking a bunker, on January 18, 1944.

Evacuated, he recovers after several months of hospital. But being no longer quite a man (he had mutilated genitals), he seized a mine at the weapons store, went near the Oder, and blew himself up⁷⁹. Damiani maybe won the *Iron Cross 1st Class* (posthumous ?)⁸⁰.



Damiani, decorated by the General Rupp.

⁷⁹ He lets his medals wrapped near him, and a farewell note : « I am not a man anymore. I am leaving. Farewell comrades. Farewell the Wallonie. »

Following the explosion, only a fragment of skull and sternum was found.

⁸⁰ A source from Theo Verlaine, indicated he was an infiltrated allied agent !

Jean DANLY

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Jean Danly was born on July 9, 1899. He was a leading member of the Jeunesse Socialiste for the region of Ath. He enlisted in the Légion étrangère in 1939, at the war mobilization. Released after the defeat, he returns to run a café in Liège. In early 1942 he became head of the Liege section of the Défense du Peuple, and acting president of the MNPW around the same time.

Enlisted in the Legion Wallonie in March 1942. He will be demobilized in September the same year, because of his age. A few months later he became head of the department of assistance and protection of members of Rex. Among his tasks : to help and compensate the militants victims of attacks. He re-engages in the Sturmbrigade Wallonien in March 1944⁸¹. On July 9, 1944 he is involved in the murder of the pharmacist Charles, at Bouillon, killed in retaliation for the murder of Degrelle's brother. Danly was killed in August 1944 in Baisy-Thiry, in the strafing of an Allied plane.

81 We do not know his rank. One is entitled to think that he was a NCO, without certainty.

Émile DARAS

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

Caporal / Gefreiter

SS-Frw. Sturmman : 01.06.1943

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer : 1944

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Émile Daras was born in 1914 at Elizabethgrad, in Russia. Professor of history, engaged on August 8, 1941, as his brother François, future officer of the Legion. Serves in the 4th company of the Legion, as a simple legionnaire. He wins the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on March 10, 1942. Wounded by resistance, the eve of Pentecost 1943.

He becomes a NCO in 1944, because behind his kind looking, he is an emeritus warrior. Fight in Pomerania, notably in the first platoon of the 3rd company of *Kampfgruppe « Derriks »*, as an *Oberscharführer*, in April 1945.



Daras, at the back of the moto.

Adrien DASSY

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Ranks :

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer⁸²

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Adrien Dassy was born on June 9, 1900 in Quiévrain (Hainaut province). Rexist, enlisted of the August 8, 1941 contingent. Demobilized after the death of his brother Auguste in the Caucasus. Decorated with the *KVK IInd Class* on September 15, 1942. Goes back to Belgium, and directs the recruiting office of Mons, and then becomes inspector of the twenty-two regional offices of the Sturmbrigade.

He joined the ranks of the Wallonien division at the end of the war. Sentenced after the war.

Auguste DASSY

Sergent / Unteroffizier



Auguste Dassy is born in 1918 at Boussu (Hainaut province). Student, he joined the Legion in August 1941 (registration number 330). Assigned to the 4th companies, he participates to the Caucasian campaign. Killed at Tcheriakoff on August 24, 1942. He was decorated (posthumously ?) with the *Iron Cross IInd Class*, the *KVK IInd Class* and the *Badge of the Wounded in Black*.

82 He held this rank in 1943, it seems, while he was assigned to the recruiting office of Mons.

Jean-Robert DEBBAUDT

SS-Frw. Schütze

Jean-Robert Debbaudt was born in 1929 in Brussels. In September 1944 he is evacuated in the evacuation of families of legionaries in Belgium. Civilian volunteer for the Wallonien division on October 15, 1944. Assigned to the pioneer company, he trained at Radischau. Deserted before the rise to the front of his unit, on March 27, 1945⁸³.

Hiding himself at his parents home, he is arrested, denounced by a tenant of his building. Sent to the prison of Saint-Gilles, then to the barracks of Petit-Château in November 1945. Judged in January 1946, the prosecution witness is the tenant of his building⁸⁴. He is acquitted because of his young age, but is deprived of his civil rights. Summoned soon after for his military service, he is reformed because too light.

He then studied chemistry at the Meurice Institute, then found a job and got married.⁸⁵ He invests again in politics, in a right-wing movement of people not compromised in the Collaboration. Seeing that the latter are hardly against the Marshall Plan, Debbaudt become strategically closer to the Communists. Becomes secretary of the Saint-Gilles cell. In 1950, he joined the battalion of Belgian volunteers for Korea. But he must leave the battalion two weeks after his engagement. Indeed, the authority had discovered his party membership !

He founded the Mouvement pour le retour de Leon Degrelle in 1950, and the Mouvement Social Belge in 1954. But his dubious past and his claim that he was *Standarten-OberJunker*⁸⁶, without giving any proof, made him a suspect⁸⁷, who closed to Debbaudt the doors of veteran circles, despite genuine activism⁸⁸. Only Degrelle accepted the support of this strange character⁸⁹.

Debbaudt was a member of a lot of little parties (Mouvement Populaire Wallon, Europafront, World Union of National-Socialists, Nouvel Ordre Européen, Deutsche Volksunion, Anti Zionist Society...). He was a member too of the poujadist party UNI, then the Union Bruxelloise, of which he is expelled. From 1974 he forms the Action Rexiste (who become Front rexiste populaire in 1977. The movement won only 0.2% of the vote in the parliamentary elections of the same year.

More discreet since the 1980's⁹⁰, he ran for the last time in the elections, under the label « Nation »

83 Here is the military background of Debbaudt, according to his own version. All of this is very wacky :

« Enlisted in the Legion Wallonie in March 1942, falsifying his identity documents, because he was then only fifteen and a half years. Paid to the 4th company of the Legion, like many young people. Participate in the Caucasus Campaign. Evacuated by plane, because suffering from an irritation to the throat. He goes through Ploesti in Romania, then Lille and finally Cambrai. He is told that he has diphtheria, and stays in the hospital for several months. Decorated with the *Iron Cross IInd Class*.

From June 1943 to August 1944, he instructed new recruits in Heiligenstadt, in a camp of Hitler Youth. He is following a pioneering internship. In April 1945, his company commander Mirgain gave him the order to go to Degrelle to Lübeck. Debbaudt arrives three days later, and finds Degrelle, who orders him to gather the maximum number of Walloons towards Lübeck, to obtain an honorable surrender of the British. And Degrelle, seeing that Debbaudt does not have the *Iron Cross Ist Class*, gives him this latter with a written document !

Made prisoner by the Soviets. He managed to fiddle with the column of prisoners with three comrades, and returned to Belgium in a convoy of Belgian deportees and prisoners of war. He manages to evade the questions of the Sûreté, and returns home. »

84 The tenant of this building had hidden three Anglo-Saxon airmen. Debbaudt not denounced them.

85 The marriage ends in 1960.

86 Main evidence of his lies : Debbaudt does not appear on the March 10, 1942 enlisted soldiers list (established by Hagemans). Debbaudt was saying he was *Standarten-OberJunker*. He does not appear on the lists of officer cadets from Bad Tölz or Kienschlag.

In the « L'Effort Wallon » of October 18, 1944, we can read :

« ... from October 15, 1944, the civilian volunteer Debbaudt will have joined the Wallonia division ».

In addition, Debbaudt will never be at the front, having deserted. So he probably never hold the Iron Cross !

87 He even presented a fake photo, introducing as an *Unterscharführer* during the Sturmbrigade parade in Brussels !

88 He struggled to made free Franz Hellebaut in the 1950's.

89 In 1977, Debbaudt was worried by the Belgian justice, for troubled reasons ...

It is at this period that he will go to ask Degrelle a paper attesting that he is decorated with the *Iron Cross Ist Class*. Debbaudt had the utopian project of reforming Rex in Belgium !

90 According to the website resistance.be (far-left anti-fascist) he was convicted in 1981 for holding a brothel.

(head of the Brussels-Brabant Wallon section), in 2001, in Brussels. He died on June 28, 2003.



Debbaudt (on the left) with Léon Degrelle.



The truth is more complicated, Debbaudt, then owner of a hotel, had rented a room to a couple, who had abused a minor girl of 13 years.

Henri DEBRUXELLES

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Henri Debruxelles was born in 1917 in Willauplis (Hainaut province). Employee to contributions. Enlisted from August 8, 1941 contingent, he served in the 1st company.

Chief of the third platoon of the 6th company of the *SS-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »*, as *Unterscharführer*⁹¹. Missing in action in Tcherkassy.

Henri DECLERCQ

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Ranks :

Sergent / Unteroffizier

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Veteran of the Légion étrangère. Enlisted of the August 8, 1941, as a *sergent*. Chief of the third platoon of the 3th company of the *SS-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »*. Wounded in December 1943, he lets his platoon to Pirot.



Declercq (on the right) with his platoon.

91 Sometimes quoted as an *adjudant* since 1941 (page 25 of « Léon Degrelle et la Légion Wallonie »)...

Jules DELCOMMINETTE

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Jules Delcomminette was born June 10, 1918. Commercial agent in Seraing, he joined the Jeunesse Rexiste in November 1940. First *chef de Serment*, he became acting head of District of Liège on August 28, 1941. He volunteered for the Legion Wallonie on March 10, 1942, but retained in the country on the order of Degrelle, because considered essential in his position of acting chief of the *Pays* of Liege and Limbourg (he had rank of *chef de Bannière*). He was *chef d'Enseigne* of the Jeunesse Légionnaire.

Mobilized in the Wallonia division on October 11, 1944. He was sent to Wolfenbüttel by Paul Mezetta, in order to reorganize the Jeunesse Légionnaire, and to prepare their incorporation into the division. Sick, he stays in the hospital of Gronau from November 1944 to January 1945. He is then orderly of Stubaf. Chekhoff, at the SS Regiment 70⁹². Delcomminette is finally demobilized.

Gilbert DELRUE

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Ranks :

Caporal-chef / Obergefreiter

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Gilbert Delrue was born on December 24, 1912 in Quiévrain. Military of career since 1930. Driver at the Traffic office of the OFK Mons, he then goes to the service of the German railways.

Enlisted of August 8, 1941 contingent, assigned to the 2nd company. Decorated with the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on September 2, 1942. Seriously injured during the Cherkassy campaign. Finished the war as *Hauptscharführer* at the *Ersatz Battalion 36*, responsible for the equipment of the conscripts. He also held the *Iron Cross Ist Class*.

Died after the war.



Delrue (in the middle) Vernier, debout à gauche.

92 He was probably at least *Oberscharführer*.

Fernand DENIS

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Ranks :

Caporal-chef / Obergefreiter⁹³
SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Fernand Denis was born on December 7, 1914. A professional photo-engraver, he enlisted on August 8, 1941 and was assigned to the 4th company, he was decorated with the Iron Cross IInd Class on October 15, 1942.

Demobilised, he became a non-commissioned officer in the *Ersatzkommando Wallonien*, in Brussels. In 1944 he was involved in killings in Wavre and Huy. He was executed by shooting on June 4, 1949 in Nivelles.

Lucien DENIS

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Lucien Denis was born on October 7, 1891⁹⁴. Manager of Crédit Anverso in Mons, he is a member of Rex from 1935. Briefly mobilized as a Municipal Police Officer in May 1940. He then became a Group Leader within the Rex-Mons Circle. He is appointed a City Alderman on November 26, 1943, then Mayor on February 6, 1944. He survived two attempted assassinations.

Enlisted in the Wallonia Division on 6 October 1944, as a non-commissioned officer he is assigned to the staff of the Ist Battalion of the SS Regiment 69. He was demobilised at the end of December 1944.

Henri DENYS

RAD-Feldmeister
Légionnaire / Soldier

Henri Denys was born on December 5, 1919. *Chef de Fanion* of the Formations de Combat at Ligny. He joined the Division Wallonie on February 10, 1942. He was probably demobilised after the Caucasus.

From April 20 to July 15, 1943 he served in the RAD in Miltenberg. He was assigned to S.V.T.W. (*Service Volontaire de Travail pour la Wallonie*, the Rexist Labour Corps) as Head of the Works Office in May 1944. Returning to Germany, he was the Deputy Commander of the Allerbüttel camp.

⁹³ Mentioned as holding this Rank in March 1943.

⁹⁴ He had two sons, Paul and Robert. The first was interim leader of the Jeunesse Legionnaires of the Flanders and Hainaut regions from March 1942, he was succeeded by his brother Robert, who joined the Legion in March 1942, ending the war as *Standarten-OberJunker*.

Roger DEPRET

SS-Frw. Schütze
NSKK-Mann

Roger Depret was born on July 12, 1910. An Electrical engineer, Chef de Groupe Rex-Manage from July 1940 to July 1941, when he joined NSKK. When he was demobilised, he volunteered for work in Germany in 1942.

Returning to Belgium, he joined the Auxiliary Police of La Louvière in November 1943, then Brigade A of the D.S.I. (*Département de Sécurité et d'Information*, the Security and Intelligence department of Rex). Brigade A operated in La Louvière where he was known as number A.13, as deputy to the Brigade Commander. He was involved in 107 arrests, 36 deaths, 2 attempted murders, 27 robberies and 4 extortions.

A refugee in Germany in August 1944, he was transferred to the Marburg spy school. Arrested in Germany on 17 December 1945. He was shot on June 14, 1948 in Charleroi.

Victor DERHET

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer
Adjudant / Feldwebel (G.W.)

Promotions :

Adjudant / Feldwebel (Garde Wallonne)
SS-Frw. Oberscharführer⁹⁵ : October 1944

Victor Derhet was born on 26 September 1908 in Habay-la-Neuve (Luxembourg province). A professional businessman, he joined the Garde Wallonne in 1941, and remained there until the Liberation, obtaining the rank of *adjudant*. He was serving in 1944 with the *bande à Jayé*.

Recruited into the Division Wallonie in October 1944. He was sentenced to death by the Belgian courts in February 1948.⁹⁶

⁹⁵ This Rank is not confirmed

⁹⁶ Source: correspondence with Jean-Pierre Pirard. It is not known whether the sentence was carried out.

Walter DESCAMPS

Sergent-chef / Unterfeldwebel

Walter Descamps was born in 1913 in La Bouverie (Hainaut province). A hairdresser by trade, he joined the Légion Wallonie in August 1941. Assigned to the 3rd company at the beginning of 1942, he won the *Iron Cross 2nd Class* on March 10, 1942, after the fighting in Gromowaja-Balka.

Company Warrant Officer (*Spiess*⁹⁷) of the 2nd company of the Légion Wallonie during the Caucasus campaign⁹⁸. Died after the war.



Descamps on the far left.

Robert DESCHRIVJER

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Robert Deschrijver was born in 1905 in Brussels. He enlisted on August 8, 1941. In August-September 1944 he was platoon commander with the 4th company of *Kampfgruppe Ruelle* in Estonia.

⁹⁷ *Sergent-chef* in March 1943. He may have been promoted to *adjudant* later.

⁹⁸ He does not seem to have been part of either the Sturmbrigade or the Division Wallonie.

Fernand DESMUL

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Fernand Desmul was born on April 4, 1916. He enlisted on August 8, 1941. At the end of 1943 he returns to Belgium. He is a member of in Henri Philippet's platoon in the 1st company of *Kampfgruppe Ruelle* in Estonia. At this time, he held the rank of *Oberscharführer*.

He attends a Morse code course in Lehnitz in October 1944 and is sent to the Wiehl spy school from 17 December 1944 to February 1945 (he was leader of the Waterloo sabotage group - 8 men), but when the mission he should have carried out in Luxembourg was cancelled, he was sent back to the Division Wallonie. He died after the war.

Lucien DEVAUX

RAD-Oberstfeldmeister
Adjutant / Feldwebel

Promotions:

Adjutant / Feldwebel

RAD-Feldmeister: December 1943

RAD-Oberstfeldmeister: 01.05.1944

Lucien Devaux was born on March 21, 1899. He joined Rex in January 1942, leaving to enlist on March 10, 1942. Quartermaster of the Legion Wallonia he seems to have demobilised at the start of 1943 with the rank of adjutant.

He joins the S.V.T.W. in July 1943, as head of the administration office. He held the same position at the S.T.W. (the renamed S.V.T.W.) after September 1944. Arrested in Brussels on 19 January 1948.

Max DEVREUX

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Ranks :

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer⁹⁹

Max Devreux was born on August 21, 1897 in Mons (Hainaut province). A Deputy Postmaster in Anseremme. A member of Rex from November 1940, he was *chef de Section* of Rex-Montegnée. He tried unsuccessfully to become the Mayor.

He joined the Legion Wallonie in August 1941 and left the unit in January 1943, for anti-Degrelle activities. Shortly afterwards, he joined the Waffen-SS with *Ersatz Kommando Flandern*, and was transferred to the SS-PK. He contributes to the « Combattant Européen » and the « Combattant SS », as well as to the « Annales de la Légion Wallonie » (writing an article in issue 3). He was appointed to the *Propaganda Abteilung* in Berlin in January 1945. Convicted after the war.

Jean DEZUTTER

Sergent-chef / Unterfeldwebel

Jean Dezutter was born on 28 September 1915 in Marcinelle (Hainaut province). An accountant, he participates in the 18-day campaign in 1940. Enlisting on August 8, 1941, he led the Charleroi contingent (of about 215 men) on the day they left. Assigned to the 4th company, he was decorated with the *Iron Cross 2nd Class* on September 15, 1942.

Returning to Germany after the Liberation, Degrelle entrusted him with the Rexist refugee village of Nettelrode (as accounting officer). He committed suicide in detention at the Beverloo camp in 1947 or 1948.

⁹⁹ This rank is confirmed by Louis Maghe, who knew him in Berlin in late 1943 during his time as an SS-*Kriegsbericht*.

Joseph DIÉPART

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

OT-Meister

Sous-lieutenant / Leutnant (LVF)

Ranks :

Sergent / Unteroffizier

Sous-lieutenant / Leutnant : 1942¹⁰⁰

OT-Meister : 1943

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer¹⁰¹

Joseph Diépart was born on February 2, 1905 in Fraipont (Liège province). Belgian, registered in the PPF and then in the RNP. Three times promoted to NCO in the Foreign Légion, and three times dismissed for disciplinary reasons ! In 1940, he was a simple soldier - soon to be reappointed *sergent* - in the 5th company of the 21st *Régiment de marche de volontaires étrangers*. He was nominated for a commendation by the Division and received it a year later.

He joined the LVF as a *sergent* in 1941. He has a bawdy and adventurous style and is nicknamed the « cheetah » by his classmates. Replaces Jean Dupont as head of the first section of the 2nd company on November 6, 1941 and fights in front of Moscow. Removed from Kruszyna camp in France on April 30, 1942. He had been promoted to *sous-lieutenant* some time earlier.

At the beginning of 1943 he joined the Todt Organisation where he was in the special brigade, hunting deserters. He joined the Sturmbrigade Wallonie on July 5, 1943.



Diepart, in the centre, after being wounded, December 1, 1941.

¹⁰⁰ Promoted shortly before his demobilization. Source: conversation with Eric Lefèvre.

¹⁰¹ This rank cannot be confirmed.

Louis DIEU

*RAD-Feldmeister
Sergent / Unteroffizier*



Louis Dieu was born on December 4, 1918 in La Bouverie (Hainaut province). He was employed in the coal mining industry in Quaregnon. A member of the Formations de Combat from June 1941 to August 8, 1941, he was demobilised on November 25, 1942.

Following a RAD training course in Miltenberg from April 20 to July 15, 1943 he was assigned as a platoon leader at the SVTW camp in Lasnes, from May-August 1944. He became a *Feldmeister* in July 1944.

Retreating to Germany, he ran Camp W3 in Bodentstedt. At the beginning of April 1945, he burnt all the documents of the camp. Despite orders he did not join the remains of the Division Wallonie in Stettin (no SVTW officer joined the division) and disappeared into the countryside.

Carlos DOHET

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer



Carlos Dohet was born on 25 September 1909 in Namur (Namur province). A Platoon commander with the 3rd company of the Legion Wallonie (1941-42), with the rank of *sergent*, he won the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on March 7, 1942¹⁰².

Spiess of the 9th company of the *SS-Sturmbrigade Wallonien* in 1943-1944¹⁰³. He was sentenced in 1947 to five years' imprisonment, which was reduced to three after an appeal¹⁰⁴.



102 His unit was mentioned in the Legions orders of the day : « With his battle group, Dohet participated in various counter-attacks. He showed admirable fighting skills and exemplary fighting spirit. »

103 Other awards :

Wound Badge in black: 29.03.1942

Infantry Assault Badge in Bronze : 27.03.1944

104 In 1987 he was charged with theft and with concealing original documents from his court file.

Victor DOHLEN

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Platoon Commander with the 1st company of *Kampfgruppe Ruelle* in Estonia, August-September 1944.

Marcel DONNERS

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Marcel Donners was born on May 25, 1899. An electrician, he was briefly involved in the Légion Wallonie. He was subsequently seconded to the *Ersatzkommando* in Brussels as head of archiving. He evacuated to Germany in September 1944, taking the archives with him. Assigned to the spy school in Marburg, with the rank of *Oberscharführer*, responsible for the maintenance and repair of the equipment. He was executed by firing squad on June 4, 1949 in Nivelles.

Raymond DREUMONT

RAD-Oberfeldmeister
Sergent / Unteroffizier

Raymond Dreumont was born on March 23, 1915. *Maréchal-des-logis* in the 1st Regiment of Chasseurs à Cheval, he was taken prisoner by the Germans in May 1940 and released on June 10, 1941. A member of Rex, he was appointed as a councillor at Bouge and works as a supervisor at the Office of Milk, Fat, Butter and Derivatives.

A Liaison officer of the 2nd Etendard of the Formations de Combat (the Rexist Militia), he was appointed to the NSKK before joining the Légion Wallonie on 10 March 1942, probably with the rank of *sergent*¹⁰⁵. He is wounded in action on June 10, 1942 and demobilised.

He underwent a RAD training course at Calw School from March 15 to June 10, 1943. Then he holds a position at the Querum school camp, before being appointed *Feldmeister* in April 1944 (and is promoted to the again in June). He is principal of the Lasne-Chapelle-Saint-Lambert school camp (Camp Lucien Lippert) and from November 1944 he oversaw the Allerbüttel camp.

Resigned on December 3, 1944¹⁰⁶, and was moved to the Querum camp. His resignation being accepted on 21 February 1945, he was deprived of ration stamps and was forced to survive by his own devices. In May 1945 he took refuge with a former episcopal professor from Nivelles. Dreumont was arrested and convicted after the war.

¹⁰⁵ This was the rank he held in the Belgian Army.

¹⁰⁶ Because he disagreed with the direction the movement was moving in.

Raymond DRUART

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer
Adjudant-chef / Oberfeldwebel (G.W.)

Ranks :

Sergent / Unteroffizier (Garde Wallonne) : 01.03.1942

Adjudant / Feldwebel (G.W.) : 21.10.1943

Adjudant-chef / Oberfeldwebel (G.W.) : March 1944

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer : 15.10.1944

Raymond Druart was born on September 28, 1919. A waiter, he joined the Garde Wallonne on February 2, 1942. Rapidly appointed a NCO, he was sent as an instructor to the 5th company in Contich where he rose to the rank of *adjudant-chef*. He was involved in a retaliation operation in Ougrée on August 31, 1944.

He was admitted into the Division Wallonie on 15 October 1944 (with the rank of *Oberscharführer*)¹⁰⁷.

Jean DUBOIS

Caporal / Gefreiter

Jean Dubois was born on 1921 in La Hulpe (Brabant Wallon province). Enlisted to the Legion Wallonie on August 8, 1941. Appointed to the 3th company. On July 2, 1942, he is awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class*.

Henri DUPONT

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer
Adjudant / Feldwebel (G.W.)

Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

Adjudant / Feldwebel (G.W.)

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer : October 1944

Henri Joseph Dupont was born on 16 November 1923 in Vottem (Liège province). He works as a coal miner in Salzinnes. Volunteers for Légion Wallonie with the contingent of August 8, 1941. Wounded in Gromo on February 11, 1942 he is demobilised and then moved on to the Garde Wallonne¹⁰⁸. He also is a Enseigne at the Flamme III of Namur.

¹⁰⁷ The officers of the Garde Wallonne were transferred to the Waffen-SS with a rank of Oscha. Effectively Druart, who is an *adjudant-chef*, was demoted.

¹⁰⁸ Mentioned in the « Pays Réel » on January 19, 1944 as a former Garde Wallonne adjudant stationed in

He is enlisted into the Division Wallonie on 25 October 1944, with the rank of *Oberscharführer*.¹⁰⁹

Léon DUPONT

Adjudant-chef / Oberfeldwebel



Léon Dupont was born on June 12, 1897 in Masnuy-Saint-Jean (Hainaut province). A Communist agitator in the Borinage, he was the delegate of the Komintern for Wallonia and northern France. Joined the Légion Wallonie (in the contingent of August 8, 1941), to see the « Soviet paradise », he quickly changed his political convictions ! Assigned to the 2nd company of the Legion Wallonie, he won the *Iron Cross IInd Class* in Gromowaja-Balka, for having led a counterattack.

Returns in 1943 to Belgium where he is responsible for the Solidarité Légionnaire office in La Louvière. Fled to Germany in September 1944¹¹⁰. Died in 1964.



Namur.

109 Source: conversation with Jean-Pierre Pirard and Théo Verlaine.

110 One of his two sons died in Cherkassy in February 1944.

Edgard DUQUESNE

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Inspecteur principal des Brigades du D.S.I (provinces de Hainaut et Namur)

Inspecteur provincial de la Brigade A du D.S.I (La Louvière)

Edgard Duquesne was born on February 15, 1907. After being made bankrupt, he worked as an interpreter for the Mayor of La Louvière in May 1940. He was then Director of Requisitions at the Town Hall. Also served as inspecteur régional of the Rexist press and intelligence service at Rex headquarters. He tried to join the Legion Wallonie twice, in August 1941 and March 1942, but was refused each time on the grounds of physical incapacity.

In July 1943 he took over the command of Brigade A (the first formed) of the D.S.I. located in La Louvière, even though he had already been involved in para-military activity for many months (as part of the Duquesne Band). It consisted of about 40 men and it made approximately 977 arrests (of which 307 died or went missing) and attempted 17 murders. He is promoted to *inspecteur principal* of the D.S.I. Brigades for Hainaut and Namur provinces in January 1944.

He is withdrawn to Germany and transferred to the Waffen-SS. However, he turned down the position of commander of the divisional *Feldgendarmarie*¹¹¹. Duquesne plans to train the future Belgian police force, but is blocked by Degrelle, who considers strengthening the SS to be his main priority. He then worked as a recruiter for Lambinon and Leitstelle Siegfried. In 1945 he was the director of the spy centre in Neue-Weststadt.

Executed by firing squad on June 14, 1948 in Charleroi, after being found directly responsible for 29 murders¹¹².

Omer EVERARD

RAD-Oberstfeldmeister

Sergent / Unteroffizier

Omer Everard was born on August 18, 1911 in Silly (Hainaut province). A Dairy manager and member of Rex since 1936, he became Mayor of Hellebecq in February 1939.

Enlisted in the Légion Wallonie on August 8, 1941 (he was Enlisted No. 3). He became a NCO instructor in the Legion from January to March 1943, when he was demobilised. He attended a course at the *Truppführerschule IV* of the RAD, in Calw, from 15 March to 10 June 1943.

Made Chief of Staff of the SVTW from May 1944, he was dismissed by his superior Léon Closset on August 30, 1944, just before his evacuation to Germany. This was most likely related to his involvement in the Courcelles massacre. He was taken prisoner on September 19, 1944 and executed by firing squad on June 8, 1945 in Tournai.

¹¹¹ His rank is not known but he may have been an *Oberscharführer* in the SS.

¹¹² Source: Jean-Pierre Pirard et Eddy De Bruyne.

Alfred FALCQUE

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer



Promotions :

Sergent / Unteroffizier

Adjutant / Feldwebel

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer : 01.06.1943

Alfred Falcque¹¹³ was born on August 15, 1910 in Marchovelette (Namur province). A PTT agent and Rex member from 1937, he enlisted in the Legion Wallonie in August 1941, with the rank of *sergent*. A platoon commander with the 2nd company, with the rank of *Feldwebel* he then became the *Spiess* during 1942.

Commanding the third platoon of the 5th company of the *SS-Sturmbrigade Wallonie* he is twice wounded at Cherkassy. Demobilised in April 1944, he plays a leading role in Brigade D of the DSI in Liège. As part of his new police duties, he took part in various reprisal actions including Wavre, August 4, 1944, where the Mayor was shot dead.

He fled to Germany in September 1944 and in December 1944 was with Degrelle in Liemerlée. He then served as a weapons and ammunition instructor at the Marburg spy school. He was recruited by Charles Lambinon to serve as *Spiess* in his company in October 1944.

Fleeing with a dozen men to Merano at the end of the war, his group was brought back to France via Switzerland, where they were arrested on 27 May 1945 by the French authorities. Sentenced to death for his action against the resistance fighters, he was executed by firing squad on 4 June 1949 in Nivelles.

¹¹³ He is sometimes erroneously called « Albert ».

Émile FARINE

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer



Promotions :

Sergent / Unteroffizier

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer : 01.06.1943

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer¹¹⁴

Émile¹¹⁵ Farine was born on August 26, 1909. A volunteer worker in Germany in 1941, he wanted to join the Garde Wallonne. He enlisted in the Légion Wallonie as a *sergent* on March 10, 1942. He fought courageously during the Caucasus campaign.

He was assigned to the 10th company (motor transport) of the *SS-Sturmbrigade Wallonien*. He fought in Cherkassy with the 7th company. In 1945 he served with the 1st company of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 70 « Bucquoi »*¹¹⁶.

Interned at the Beverloo camp after the war. He managed to escape in August 1945 but was recaptured ten days later. Sentenced to 15 years in prison on April 18, 1947¹¹⁷.

¹¹⁴ Jean Mabire, in « Division Wallonie sur la Baltique », page 183, cites him as *Unterscharführer*. It is unlikely that he remained at this rank for four years, so he can be presumed to have made *Oberscharführer*.

¹¹⁵ First name supplied by Théo Verlaine in correspondence with the author.

¹¹⁶ He was possibly the company *Spiess*.

¹¹⁷ Source: Author's correspondence with Jean-Pierre Pirard.

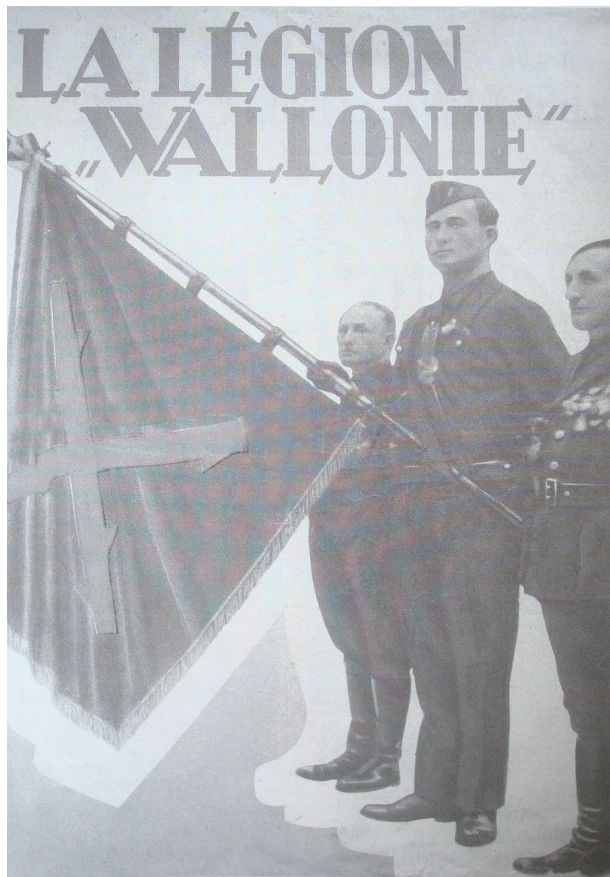
Joseph FAUCONNIER

Légionnaire / Soldat
Commandant de Flamme des Formations de Combat

Joseph Fauconnier was born on 23 July 1907 in Bressoux (Liège province). He works as a site supervisor. Initially he is a member of the Légion Nationale but in 1936 he transfers his allegiance to Rex.

Commander of the 3rd Flamme of the Formations de Combat of Liège, joined the Legion Wallonie in August 1941 and was its flag bearer on the day of departure. He serves as a cook with the 1st company of the Légion.

Demobilised on February 17, 1943, he became head of the organization of the Cercle Rex-Liege. On September 15, 1943, he resigned from all functions. He then worked at the *Bauleitung* (in works management) on Monsin Island (which manufactures concrete blocks for the Luftwaffe). Convicted after the war¹¹⁸.



Fauconnier (centre), with René Verdeur (left).

118 By maintaining good relations with the German authorities, he avoided being deported to work in Germany.

Léopold De FELSENEER

Légionnaire / Soldat

Member of the 3rd company, he was awarded the *Iron Cross 2nd Class* on September 2, 1942.

Léon FOUCART

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Ranks:

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Léon Foucart was born on June 5, 1905. A private soldier in the 1st company of the Legion Wallonie. In 1943 he was commander of the first platoon of the 1st company of the Sturmbrigade Wallonie.

Served as platoon commander at the 2nd company of the « Kampfgruppe Ruelle » in Estonia and then as platoon commander in the 7th company of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 « 'Serclaes de Tilly' »*. He is killed in Streesen in March 1945. After the war he was erroneously sentenced to death in absentia.

Ernest FRAIKIN

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker

Ernest Fraikin was born on May 12, 1917 in Angleur (Liège province). From May 1, 1944 to September 9, 1944, he attends the *SS-Panzer Grenadierschule* in Kienschlag. On completing the course, he is promoted to *Standarten-Junker*.

Fraikin served as platoon leader with the 1st company of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 « 'Serclaes de Tilly' »*. He was fatally wounded fighting at Streesen on March 4, 1945¹¹⁹.

¹¹⁹ He was seriously injured at the same time and place as Paul Mezetta. He died a few hours later.

Jean FRISSCHEN

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer



Promotions :

Caporal / Gefreiter

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Jean Frisschen was born on December 13, 1909 in Saint-Rémy (Liège). A Farmer, he was chef de Groupe of Rex-Dalhelm. Volunteering on August 8, 1941 he was a member of the 1st company in 1942¹²⁰, with the rank of *caporal*. He won the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on August 19, 1942¹²¹. Promoted to *Unterscharführer* in 1943.

He died in 1985.



¹²⁰ In May 1943 during Himmler's inspection of the Legion Wallonie, he answered a question from Himmler by giving him the title of « Rechnungsführer » (accountant), which he confused with « Reichsführer » !

¹²¹ While searching for supplies, he saw men of the 3rd company working with a mortar. Frisschen took command of the group, and with the help of Lucien Lippert, stopped a Soviet attack. Next day he was summoned to Lippert's office, who reprimanded him for being away from his position. The Degrelle added « Fortunately you were there », before awarding him the decoration.

Louis FROMENT

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Louis Froment was born on May 27, 1904. He was a director controlling the supply of livestock in Liege and then in charge of supplies in the Greater Liege area from 17 January 1943. He was posted as an *Oberscharführer* into the Division Wallonie on 14 October 1944, as a member of the headquarters of the 1st Battalion.

Jean FURNELLE

Légionnaire / Soldat



Jean Furnelle was born on 11 October 1919 in Brussels. He worked in business before the war. He was appointed commander of the 18th Flamme of the Formations de Combat, in Lille. Then he enlisted in the Legion Wallonie in August 1941. On August 26, 1942 he was wounded fighting in the Caucasus, and this led to him being demobilised.

In April 1943, he became the first Chef d'Enseigne of the Jeunesse Légionnaire and head of the Propaganda Department of the Commanders Staff in November of the same year. He is also the director of « L'Assaut », a magazine of the Jeunesse Légionnaire.

Fleeing to Germany, from November 1944 he assists Victor Matthys and his group travelling around the country. In 1945, he organized a veterans support network¹²². He was arrested and convicted in 1947.

¹²² Which was nicknamed le « maquis des inciviques » by the press.

Robert GENIN

Sergent / Unteroffizier

Robert Genin was born in 1911 in Etalle (Luxembourg province). He fought with the Legion Wallonie as a member of the 4th company in Gromowaja-Balka. On March 10, 1942¹²³ he won the *Iron Cross IInd Class*. Participates in the Caucasus campaign. At the end of 1942 he commanded the 4th company of *Kampfgruppe Closset*, which consisted of 190 men who remained on the front.

After the war he joined the Foreign Légion in 1945 and was killed serving in Indochina in 1948.

Jules GÉRARD

Sergent / Unteroffizier

Jules Gérard was born in 1919 in Wasmuel (Hainaut province). He serves with the 4th company of the Legion Wallonie. He is awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on September 15, 1942. Convicted after the war.

Joseph GILSON

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer
Inspecteur provincial de la Brigade G du D.S.I (Dinant)

Joseph Gilson was born on July 7, 1903. A career soldier, he joined Rex in 1936. A recruiter for the Légion Wallonie, he was a member of Brigade H of the D.S.I. and then head of Brigade G (in Dinant) from June to August 1944. He also provided information to the SD, denouncing members of the Maquis of Durnal, Crupet, Bauche and Bièvre.

Transferred into the Division Wallonie¹²⁴, he was assigned to *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 70*. He was executed by firing squad in Namur on September 21, 1948.

Edmond GOHY

Sergent / Unteroffizier

Edmond Gohy was born in 1912. He joined the Légion Wallonie as a member of the 1st company and was awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on May 21, 1942. He was killed in Maikop on February 7, 1943.

¹²³ He was promoted to Unteroffizier in March 1943.

¹²⁴ Possibly as a NCO, although this is not certain.

Armand GUELTON

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer



Promotions :

Sergent-chef / Unterfeldwebel

SS-Frw. Scharführer : 01.06.1943

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer¹²⁵ : 1944

Armand Guelton was born on 13 April 1920 in Tournai (Hainaut province). Held as a prisoner of war in Stalag XIII/A, he volunteered for the Legion Wallonie in April 1942, serving in the 2nd company.

He was commander of the second platoon of the 2nd company of the *SS-Sturmbrigade Wallonien*, from 1943 until February 11, 1944, when he was wounded. He fought on the Oder in 1945¹²⁶.

Nicolas GUYOT

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Nicolas Guyot was born on August 10, 1918 in Trembeur (Liège province). As a *Hauptscharführer*¹²⁷ he commanded the headquarters group of the 4th company of *Kampfgruppe Ruelle* in Estonia. He was wounded by shell fragments in his buttocks on August 21, 1944 and evacuated.

He survived the war. Author of an unpublished work : « Maria Magdalena ».

¹²⁵ Source : the author's correspondence with Jean-Pierre Pirard.

¹²⁶ Holder of the *Iron Cross IInd Class*, *Infantry Assault badge in bronze* and the *Wounded badge in black*.

¹²⁷ Source: Jean Mabire, page 53 of « Division Wallonie sur la Baltique ».

José d'HAESE

Sergent-chef / Unterfeldwebel

He enlisted in the Legion Wallonie on August 8, 1941 (registration number 601). Assigned to the 1st company, he was decorated with the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on September 2, 1942 and demobilised on May 12, 1943.

Pierre HANCISSE

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker

Promotions:

SS-Frw. Scharführer¹²⁸

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker: 09.09.1944¹²⁹

Pierre Hancisse was born on 2 January 1921 in Charleroi (Hainaut province). Enlisted on August 8, 1941, he was wounded in Gromowaja-Balka. He participates in almost all the Legions' campaigns¹³⁰.

After training in the *SS-Panzer Grenadierschule* in Kienschlag from May 1 to September 9, 1944, he was then assigned to *SS-Grenadier-Ausbildungs- und Ersatz-Battalion 36*.

He was a platoon commander with the 1st company of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69* « 'Serclaes de Tilly' », when it was practically destroyed on March 4, 1945. He commanded the second platoon of the 1st company of the *Kampfgruppe Derriks* and was wounded on March 17, 1945 and evacuated.

He died January 11, 1985.

Albert HANOT

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Albert Hanot was born on December 18, 1917. A student of philosophy and literature, he volunteered to work in Germany. He joined the Sturmbrigade Wallonie as a war correspondent on October 1, 1943. In May 1944 he is detached to the General Chardome, when this one was volunteer for the Waffen-SS (he'll later change of mind).

At the start of the Estonian campaign (July 1944) he was still a war correspondent. He then worked as a writer for the « Combattant SS » magazine. He was demobilised in Copenhagen by *Untersturmführer* Chomé on April 30, 1945.

¹²⁸ A picture taken in Kienschlag in 1944 shows him with this rank..

¹²⁹ Eddy De Bruyne shows him as a *Hauptscharführer* in his organization chart of *Kampfgruppe Derriks* in March 1945.

¹³⁰ Source: Jean Mabire (« Division Wallonie sur la Baltique », page 258). Theo Verlaine is probably mistaken in saying that he returns to the Legion later in the war.

Marc HAVAUX

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer
Chef de Bannière de la Jeunesse Légionnaire



Ranks :

Caporal / Gefreiter

Sergent / Unteroffizier : 01.02.1942

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Marc Havaux¹³¹ was born on 10 January 1910 in Ellignies-Sainte-Anne (Hainaut province). A teacher by profession, he joined the Légion Wallonie in August 1941. Assigned to the staff company, he was decorated with the *War Merit Cross IInd Class* on October 15, 1942.

He was demobilised in June 1943 after the fighting in the Caucasus. Appointed head of the « Chevalerie », Jeunesse Légionnaire Training Centre in Marcinelle, August 1943. He held the rank of *Chef de Bannière*.

In September 1944 he withdrew to Germany with his young people, who he set up in a military preparation camp at Seeblick-bei-Sooden, but despite his efforts, he only managed to convince 127 young people to join the Division Wallonie¹³². Havaux joins the division with the rank of *Oberscharführer*¹³³. In April 1945, he tried to organise a self-help network, but was quickly arrested and convicted.

¹³¹ He is sometimes called « Max » by error.

¹³² Including falsifying dates of birth of some.

¹³³ Source: author's correspondence with Eddy De Bruyne.

Maxime HAVET

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer



Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer¹³⁴

Maxime Havet¹³⁵ was born on 29 January 1920 in Stavelot (Liège province). He oversaw the Spa cell of the Formations de Combat before joining the Legion on August 8, 1941.

Sent on a training course at the officer cadet school in Kienschlag (from May to September 1944), however he did not complete the course. He was one of the ten men (all from his platoon) who accompanied Degrelle to Belgium during the Ardennes offensive. They were deployed to Meyerode (near Saint-Vith) on 25 December 1944, accompanying Sepp Dietrich's staff, before moving to Steinbach and finally Limelé. Havet left the Ardennes with the other Walloons on the morning of 10 January 1945.

He commanded a platoon of the 1st company of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69* « 'Serclaes de Tilly » and then the third platoon of the 1st company of the « Kampfgruppe Derriks ». He was wounded in action and replaced by Chavanne. Following his recovery, he returned as commander of the third platoon of the 1st company of the *Kampfgruppe Derriks* where, during the fighting at Schillersdorf on April 20, 1945 he was killed by a shot to the head.

¹³⁴ Eddy De Bruyne lists him as an Oscha in his organisation chart of the Division Wallonie, then Hscha in Kampfgruppe Derriks in March 1945. It can be assumed that he was promoted in the interim period.

¹³⁵ Some sources call him « Marc », notably Jean Mabire. De Bruyne and Verlaine both call him « Maxime ».

Jules d'HAYER

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer



Ranks :

Adjudant / Feldwebel

Adjudant-chef / Oberfeldwebel

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer : September 1944

Jules d'Hayer¹³⁶ was born on 13 January 1907 in Gilly (Hainaut province). He was member of Rex and an employee of the Belgium-Advertising agency, he joined the Légion Wallonie on August 8, 1941, as an *adjudant*. During 1941 and 1942 he commanded the signals group of the Légion Wallonie and on July 5, 1942 he was awarded the *War Merit Cross IInd Class with Swords*.

He refused to join the Waffen-SS in May 1943 and was demobilised. He was then seconded to Radio-Bruxelles until 1 September 1944 as a technician monitoring French-language broadcasts.

Fleeing to Germany he re-joined the Waffen-SS with the rank of *Hauptscharführer*. He trains a small group of volunteers¹³⁷ at the Radio Operator Training Centre in Lehnitz, near Berlin. Before being evacuated with his men to Prague on April 15, 1945. They moved on to Vienna, where they were caught up in the city's uprising.

He returned to Belgium and was taken prisoner in Brussels¹³⁸, where he was sentenced to life imprisonment with hard labour on November 26, 1946.

136 Eric Lefèvre and Jean Mabire both name him « Auguste ». He is also sometimes called Willy. Eddy De Bruyne (as well as Théo Verlaine) name him « Jules », in his « Moi Führer des Wallons ». Jean-Pierre Pirard, who had access to his court file, confirms « Jules ».

137 Two men and a woman. The group's code name is « Telephone ». The group should have been parachuted behind the lines, but the mission was cancelled due to the deteriorating military situation.

138 According to Eddy De Bruyne, he presented himself to the British Security Service while he was still in Vienna.

Léon HELLIN

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer



Léon Hellin¹³⁹ was born on 5 April 1916 in Alleur (Liège province). In 1943 he became commander of the first platoon of the 3rd company of the Sturmbrigade Wallonie taking the place of Oscha. Philips.

He died in Belgium in March 1989.

¹³⁹ Has the pseudonym of Mellin in 'Légion Wallonie 1941-1944' by Jean Mabire. His first name, « Léon » comes from Théo Verlaine in correspondence with the author.

Fidèle HENDRICKS

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer



Ranks :

Caporal / Gefreiter¹⁴⁰

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Fidèle Hendricks was born on February 20, 1916 in Saint-Pierre (Luxembourg province). Joined the Legion Wallonie on December 15, 1941 and was assigned to the 4th company. On September 15, 1942 he was awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class*. This was followed by the *Iron Cross Ist Class*¹⁴¹, most likely awarded during the fighting in Cherkassy¹⁴².

He was a platoon commander in the PAK company of the *SS-Panzerjäger-Abteilung 28* of Division Wallonie. In April 1945 he commanded the third platoon of the 3rd company of the *Kampfgruppe Derriks*. He fought in Schillersdorf until the end of hostilities.

¹⁴⁰ Held this rank in March 1943

¹⁴¹ Source, correspondence with Jean-Pierre Pirard.

¹⁴² A picture of Hendricks, then an Uscha, shows him with EK I. It can be assumed that this photo was taken in 1944.

René HENROTAY

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer



Ranks :

Légionnaire / Grenadier

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer : 1943

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer¹⁴³

René Henrotay¹⁴⁴ was born on July 12, 1921 in Vivegnies (Liège province). On August 8, 1941¹⁴⁵ he joined the Légion Wallonie where he served as a despatch rider in the first platoon of 1st company. On February 10, 1942, during the offensive in Gromowaja-Balka he slipped on the ice, and injured his ankle, this led to him being hospitalised in Germany. During the Caucasus campaign he was wounded again by shrapnel in his arm, this time he is treated on site and is not evacuated.

Shortly after transferring to the SS he was promoted to *Unterscharführer*. During the Cherkassy campaign, he served with the staff company as a radio operator. There he was seriously wounded in the hand, thigh and buttocks by grenade fragments. Evacuated by plane, he was hospitalised in Germany, then in Belgium, and did not take part in the Sturmbrigade parade.

In December 1944 he accompanied Degrelle to Limerlé in the Ardennes. When the Division Wallonie arrived in Stettin, he was sent to the officer's training school at Bad Tolz. He did not take part in the final battles on the Oder¹⁴⁶. From May to August 1945 he hid out for three months on a farm in Bavaria, until the Americans stationed in the area identified him. They repeatedly demanded him to return to Belgium.

He hid out in the Bois de la Cambre near Brussels with other fugitives until September 1945 when they were captured by the police after being denounced. At first, he was held in Saint-Gilles

143 Source : Obituary of René Henrotay in the newsletter « Dernier Carré » number 70. Rank confirmed by Théo Verlaine. D-C Luytens, in « SS Wallons », mistakenly has him as an *Oberscharführer*.

144 Also used the pseudonym « Delvigne ». He wrote « Léon Degrelle Essai de biographie » (385 pages) and « Chemin d'idéal » (125 pages). Source: Jean-Pierre Pirard.

145 Along with his father, also known as René, his brother and cousin Marcel Henrotay, and the Masset brothers. His father was demobilised after Gromowaja-Balka. Back in Belgium, he became a teacher and school director, angering the Socialist Municipal Council. He left an unpublished story entitled « Deux guerres pour un idéal » (about twenty pages).

146 Henrotay was awarded the following decorations :

Iron Cross IInd Class, OstMedaille, Close Combat Clasp in Bronze and the Wounded badge in Silver.

prison, before being transferred to Saint-Léonard jail in Liège¹⁴⁷. Tried in 1947 he was sentenced to life imprisonment and two years later he was transferred to the camp at Beverloo before being released in 1951. He died on March 25, 2010 in Braine Lalleux¹⁴⁸



Henrotay's Father, called René too.

147 He learned that his father, mother and younger sisters had been imprisoned for several months. His mother had been dragged into the street and brutally beaten, before being rescued by the police.

148 He contributed to the documentary « Léon Degrelle ou la Führer de vivre ».

Marcel HENRY

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Ranks :

Sergent / Unteroffizier¹⁴⁹

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Marcel Henry was born on December 7, 1919 in Liege. Joined the Légion Wallonie in August 1941, he was assigned to the 1st company and won the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on May 21, 1942, in Jablenskaya. In 1943 he became *SS-Kriegsberichtter* and serves in the Cherkassy campaign as a journalist. He became the *Spiess* of the SS-PK's Walloon platoon.



Henry, second from the right.

¹⁴⁹ Held this rank in March 1943.

André HERMANNNS

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Ranks :

Sergent / Unteroffizier

Adjudant / Feldwebel : 01.02.1942

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

André Hermanns¹⁵⁰ was born on November 2, 1913 in Verviers (Liège province), to a Belgian German-speaking father. He worked as an Insulation contractor in Eupen.

On August 8, 1941, he enlisted, serving with the 1st company of the Légion Wallonie during the first winter. Then he was transferred to the staff as an interpreter, winning the *Iron Cross 2nd Class* at Gromowaja-Balka on March 10, 1942. In November 1942 he was demobilised.

From April to October 1943 he was an interpreter at the *Kommandantur* de Verviers. Then he serves for a short while as a member of Formation B before attending the Berlin School of Interpreters from April to October 1944. In September 1944 he flees to Germany, with the *Feldgendarmarie* of Verviers. He ends the war as an interpreter at Himmler's headquarters in Triberg¹⁵¹.



From left to right : Hermans, Charles Biltrays, Degrelle, Vermeire and Lassois.

150 His name is written « Herremans » in Mabire and Lefèvre's book. De Bruyne and Verlaine write it as « Hermanns ».

151 Showing that he joined the Waffen-SS.

Léon HOBÉ

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer



Ranks :

SS-Frw. Rottenführer

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer¹⁵²

Léon Hobé was born on November 27 1919¹⁵³. A professional photographer, he enlists on August 8, 1941, becoming a *SS-Kriegsberichtter* in 1943. In 1944 he is attached to the 12th SS division « HitlerJugend », as a photographer and is reported missing during the Normandy fighting in June 1944.



¹⁵² This rank is confirmed by Eddy De Bruyne.

¹⁵³ His father Nicolas was Chef de Groupe Rex-Ixelles.

Édouard HUBOT

*SS-Frw. Schütze
Chef de Cercle (Rex-Dinant)*

Edouard Hubot was born on February 14, 1900 in Falmignoul (Namur province). A surveyor by profession, he was *Chef de Cercle* of Rex-Dinant. On August 8, 1941 he enlisted in the Légion Wallonie. He was postman for the battalion. In May 1943 he was demobilised in May 1943 and became an informant for the local SD, as well as head of the Rex-Dinant group again.

After organising the escape of local rexists to Germany in September 1944, he joined the Division Wallonie.

Jean HUSTINCX

*Inspecteur provincial de la Brigade D du D.S.I. (Liège)
Sergent / Unteroffizier*

Jean Hustincx was born on October 3, 1917. A police officer, he joined the Légion Wallonie on 10 March 1942 as a NCO. On May 23, 1943 he was demoted and sent back to Belgium. He joined Brigade D, in order to escape being mobilised into the Sturmbrigade, from late July to August 12, 1944 he became the acting *inspecteur provincial* of the Brigade. Injured in an accident, he had to hand over his position to Delcourt. He escaped to Germany when Belgium was liberated.

Sylvain JADOUL

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer
Inspecteur provincial de la Brigade D du D.S.I (Liège)
Chef de Pays de la Jeunesse Légionnaire (Liège)
Légionnaire / Soldat

Ranks:

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer¹⁵⁴

Sylvain Jadoul was born on May 2, 1914 in Tilleur (Liège province). Joined the Army in May 1930. In January 1932 he joined the Aumôniers du Travail (a Catholic clerical organisation dedicated to the apostolate in the working world), in Seraing, to learn sculpture. He is expelled for disciplinary reasons. He was then employed as a die maker by F.N. (Fabrique Nationale, the weapons manufacturer). A member of the Légion Nationale, he leaves it to join Rex.

Mobilised in 1939-1940, he returned to Belgium in September 1940, and became head of section of the Formations de Combat in Jemeppe-sur-Meuse. In April 1941 he is head of district of the Liège Formations de Combat. On August 8, 1941 he enlisted in the Légion Wallonie and on February 28, 1942 he was wounded in combat in Gromo. In June 1942 he was sent back to the rear due to his depression, but he returned a few weeks later to the unit, and participated in the Caucasus campaign. But in December 1942 he was demobilised for health reasons.

From April 3, 1943 to January 25, 1944 he is *chef de la Jeunesse Légionnaire du Pays de Liège*. From February 1, 1944 he was *inspecteur provincial* of the Brigade D of the D.S.I., before being arrested on 28 February 1944, on the order of the Germans¹⁵⁵. He was released after six days thanks to an intervention by Degrelle. After this he transferred to the D.S.I. in Brussels, in a subordinate role. But at the beginning of April, he was relieved of his position as leader of the Jeunesse Légionnaire.

He joined the Sturmbrigade Wallonie on July 3, 1944 and was assigned to *Ersatz Bataillon 36*, as clerk to Hstuf. Dengis. He was appointed to investigate the case of the theft of jewellery (committed by Brigade Z shortly before the Liberation). Degrelle worried about the outcome of the investigation, Jadoul was sent to the front on February 28, 1945. He was captured in Schwerin on May 3, 1945.

¹⁵⁴ Assumed rank, because of his status as a clerk in the Division Wallonie, it is likely that he holds at least this rank. In the French army, the clerks of the military justice system held the minimum rank of *adjudant*.

¹⁵⁵ Either because of the poor discipline or the numerous violent thefts carried out by the Brigade.

Léonard JAFRATTE

Légionnaire / Soldat



Jafratte serves in the 3rd company of the Légion Wallonie. He was awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on September 2, 1942.

Aimé JAUCOT

SS-Frw. Rottenführer

Ranks :

Caporal-chef / Obergefreiter¹⁵⁶

SS-Frw. Rottenführer¹⁵⁷

Aimé Jaucot¹⁵⁸ was born on February 15, 1907 in Mont-sur-Marchienne (Hainaut province). Joined Rex in 1936. A member of the 2nd Flamme of the Brussels Formations de Combat, he enlisted on August 8, 1941 and fought at Gromo. He served first with the signals platoon (Hayer) and then with the 4th company. Won the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on May 31, 1942. Injured in August 1942 (bullet in his foot, splinters on his shoulder and back), he was repatriated home.

In March 1943 he was assigned to the R Office (who transported deserters to the SS Courts in the Hague) of the *Ersatzkommando Wallonien*. On February 5, 1944 he was sentenced to one year in prison for failure to repay his debts. He served five months in Saint-Gilles prison before joining Sturmbrigade Wallonie in July 1944.

¹⁵⁶ Demobilised with this rank at the end of 1942.

¹⁵⁷ It is possible he achieved even higher rank than this.

¹⁵⁸ Some sources call him « Jancot », but the list of Walloon decorations of March 1943 confirm « Jaucot ».

Albert JEHAY

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Ranks :

Sergent / Unteroffizier : 01.12.1941

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Albert Jehay was born on February 10, 1907 in Barchon (Liège province). Enlisting on August 8, 1941 he served with the 2nd company of the Légion Wallonie in 1941-1942 (where he was quickly promoted to *Unteroffizier*), he won the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on March 10, 1942.

In September 1944 he was appointed *Spiess* of the *Ersatz Battalion*.

Jules FUNKEN

Inspecteur provincial de la Brigade Z du D.S.I. (Bruxelles)

Légionnaire / Soldat

Jules Funken was born on October 28, 1906. A Clerk at the Public Prosecutor's Office in Liege, he joined the Légion Wallonie (contingent of 8 August 1941). Demobilised on November 21, 1942 and he was also dismissed from his position in the Public Prosecutors office.

In April 1943 he was involved in the establishment of Brigade D as Commissioner of Investigations. In 1944, he was head of Brigade Z of the D.S.I. in Brussels, but he was suspected of collusion with the Resistance and was expelled from the D.S.I. He then entered the service of the SD.

Fernand KAISERGRÜBER

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer



Fernand Kaisergrüber¹⁵⁹ was born on 18 January 1923 in Antwerp (Antwerp province), his parents had lived in the Belgian Congo. On May 14, 1940 he tried to flee Belgium in front of the advancing German troops by car, with his family. They were hoping to go to Portugal and then on to the Belgian Congo. However, they are stopped in Bordeaux and the family returned to Belgium in September 1940.

A member of Rex, at the end of March 1941 Kaisergrüber volunteered to work in Germany, to see the living conditions there. He lived in Cologne, where he lived until October 1941. Then home on leave, he learns of the creation of the Légion Wallonne. He joined the Garde Wallonne on November 3, 1941, with the intention of quickly moving to the Légion. After several weeks of convalescence due to illness, he joined the Légion on April 10, 1942 in Meseritz and is involved in the whole Caucasus campaign.

He participates in the Cherkassy campaign, in the motorcycle platoon. He is seriously injured in his left leg and to a lesser extent his right leg during the retreat. Barely able to walk, he was rescued by a German officer, who provided him with two horses¹⁶⁰ and when they were lost, he carried him on the back of his own mount. They managed to escape and eventually crossed the Gniloï-Tikitsch river, where they met up with German troops¹⁶¹.

Taken prisoner in early May 1945¹⁶², he managed to escape from internment camp. He tries to reach the west hiding out at night with Bavarian peasants. He managed to fool the Belgian army interrogators and returned to Charleroi by train, hoping to join his fiancée¹⁶³ in Antwerp. He was

159 Youngest brother of Roger Kaisergrüber, officer of the Garde Wallonne who joined the Waffen-SS in the autumn of 1944.

160 Both horses were killed by shrapnel. Kaisergrüber suffered minor injuries each time.

161 The German officer went back to look for other wounded to help.

162 Holder of the following decorations : *Iron Cross 2nd Class, Close Combat Clasp in Bronze, Infantry Assault Badge* and the *Wounded Badge*.

163 She was arrested in September 1944 and released six months later. Arrested again in 1945 she sentenced to another year in prison.

arrested as he left the station by a team of plain clothes police officers¹⁶⁴.

He was imprisoned in Dampreny for twenty-five days, with very little food before being transferred on June 12, 1945 to Saint-Gilles prison in Brussels. Conditions were very harsh conditions, both in summer and winter. Transferred to the Petit-Château prison. On July 6, 1946, after a trial of less than twenty minutes he was sentenced to twenty years in prison. At first, he was imprisoned in the camp at Beverloo camp, before transferring to camp at Merksplas camp on July 5, 1949, where conditions were still very harsh. The director sentenced him to three days in solitary for refusing to sign a document promising not to escape. He returned to Le Petit-Château on August 25, 1949 and was released on March 11, 1950¹⁶⁵.

After the war, he was President of the « Dernier Carré » (association of veterans of the Légion Wallonie). He wrote the memoir, « Nous n'irons pas à Touapse ». One of the last surviving members of the Légion, he died on March 16, 2018, from pneumonia.



164 Kaisergrüber was betrayed by a fellow Wallonien SS man, who had been coerced into joining the SS late in the autumn of 1944.

165 On parole. He owed his release to a family friend, Georges Rhodius, a resistance fighter. Rhodius had given a lecture at Merksplas prison and had recognized Kaisergruber. However, his pardon was not confirmed until May 18, 1966 !



Lambert KAISON

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer
Commandant de Flamme des Formations de Combat



Ranks :

Sergent / Unteroffizier

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer : 01.06.1943

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer¹⁶⁶

Lambert Kaison was born on 12 December 1919¹⁶⁷ in Wandre (province of Liège). A Commercial inspector for the company Delhaize, he became *commandant de Flamme* in the Formations de Combat (head of section of Liège I & II). Enlisted on August 8, 1941, with the rank of *Unteroffizier*, he was the standard bearer of the Légion Wallonie.

In June 1943 he was demobilised and became the storeman and accountant at the Légion depot first in Charleroi, then in Namur. According to some sources¹⁶⁸ in August 1944 he is a radio operator in the staff platoon of *Kampfgruppe Ruelle* in Estonia.

In September 1944 he fled to Germany, with the *Ersatzkommando SS Wallonien*. He joins the Division Wallonie as accountant in *Ersatz Bataillon 36*.

¹⁶⁶ It can be assumed that he achieves this rank, given his longevity in the Legion.

¹⁶⁷ Source: Jean-Pierre Pirard. Other sources give July 21, 1917.

¹⁶⁸ The books by Jean Mabire and Eric Lefèvre on the Legion Wallonie, which quote him Uscha, in August 1944.

Paul KEHREN

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

Sergent / Unteroffizier¹⁶⁹

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer : 1944

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer¹⁷⁰

Paul Kehren was born on 5 March 1903 in Antwerp (province of Antwerp). Member of the Légion Nationale, he was a mechanic by trade and motorcycle rally champion. In 1935 he opens a garage. In May 1937¹⁷¹ Kehren went to Spain to fight in the Civil War, serving in Franco's armies as a member of the Bandera Juana de Arco¹⁷², a unit composed of French volunteers. In December 1939 he tried to join the Finnish army to fight in the Winter War, as an anti-communist volunteer, but was refused because of his state of health. He joined *l'Armée du Salut* from March to June 1940.

Back in Belgium, he worked in a German garage, before volunteering for work in Germany in November 1940. On June 30, 1941 he came back home and joined the Légion Wallonie in August 1941. A member of the 4th company on September 15, 1942 he was awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class*. Permanently in conflict with his superiors, including Léon Degrelle, he was demobilised on 25 September 1942¹⁷³.

From March to October 1943 he served in the Sipo-SD in Liege and Ghent as a driver-mechanic. He enlisted in Sturmbrigade Wallonia on 26 January 1944 and started attending the SS school in Kienschlag in May 1944 but was kicked out for ideological disagreements.

He is assigned to the 3rd company of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 « 't Serclaes de Tilly »* with the rank of (perhaps as *Spiess* ?). Degrelle puts him in charge of recruiting Spanish workers residing within the Reich to serve in the Division Wallonie. In March-April 1945 he ends the war as *Spiess* of the 1st company of the SS 69 Regiment.

He is sentenced to death after the war but was pardoned. and released from prison in October 1957.

¹⁶⁹ He held this rank in March 1943..

¹⁷⁰ He held this rank in March-April 1945, according to Eddy De Bruyne (« Encyclopédie de l'Ordre nouveau en Belgique francophone »).

¹⁷¹ Imprisoned for one month in Bayonne for violating the decree of non-intervention in Spain. He had tried to enter Spain in September 1936 but was turned away at Irun. Back in Liege, he was briefly imprisoned on a charge relating to fire arms weapon. Source: article by Francis Balace « La droite belge et l'aide à Franco ».

¹⁷² He is one of the few Belgians (around 38) to have fought for the Nationalists.

¹⁷³ According to Eddy De Bruyne he was promoted and demoted several times.

René De KEYSER

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker



Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Sturmman

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker¹⁷⁴ : March 1945

Enlisted soldier of the March 10, 1942 contingent, participating in the Caucasus campaign with the 4th company. During the Cherkassy battles, his jaw is smashed, and he spends many months in hospital, feeding through a rubber tube.

From September 9, 1944 to March 31, 1945 he attends the Kienschlag Officer Cadet school, with several other Walloons, leaving with the rank of *Standarten-Junker*. He joined the Division Wallonie and was appointed a platoon leader in the 7th company of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69* in April 1945.



¹⁷⁴ Jean Mabire has him as *Standarten-OberJunker* in « Division Wallonie sur la Baltique ». Eddy De Bruyne quotes him as *Stantarden-Junker* (source : Correspondence with the author).

René LADRIÈRE

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer



Ranks :

Légionnaire / Grenadier

Caporal-chef / Obergegreiter : 01.05.1942

Sergent / Unteroffizier

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer : 01.06.1943

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer : 08.08.1944

René Joseph Ladrière was born on 19 May 1919 in Gosselies (Hainaut province), his mother was of Russian origin, and having emigrated to Belgium. René lived in the Ukrainian town in Konstantinowka for nine years.

An electrician's assistant, he joined the Légion Wallonie in August 1941 as a Légionnaire. Awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class* after Gromowaja-Balka on March 10, 1942. At the end of May 1942, during the Vormarsch, he was infected with malaria and evacuated.

He transferred to the SS-Sturmbrigade Wallonie fighting with the 4th platoon of the 2nd company, from January 4, 1944 he became its commander, replacing André Régibeau. In the summer of 1944, he was at the Breslau-Lissa training camp, where he was promoted to *Oberscharführer*.

In September 1944 he attended the Kienschlag Officer Cadet School. However, he did not complete his course, and on January 31, 1945 he returned to the *Ersatz-Battalion* and then on February 10, 1945 to the division staff company, which was deployed near Stargard. In April 1945 he served with the 8th (heavy) company of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69* (commanded by Nortier)¹⁷⁵.

He was taken prisoner by the British on May 3 and interned in Neuengamme, Fallingbostel, On August 28 he was repatriated to Belgium and held first in Beverloo and after his conviction (on January 4, 1946) in Charleroi. He lodged an appeal and was tried again on the following September 3. On 14 January 1948, his sentence was reduced to twenty years' imprisonment. He was then imprisoned again in Beverloo (where he served as a typographer) and in Nivelles prison from the end of 1949. He was released in July 1950 and married in January 1951.

Ladrière died in 1982, leaving an unpublished memoir.

¹⁷⁵ Ladrière was awarded the following decorations : *OstMedal*, *War Merit Cross IInd Class with swords*, *Bronze Wound Badge*, *Close Assault Badge in Bronze*, *Close Combat Clasp in Bronze*.

Louis LAFORGE

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer
Chef de Pays de la Jeunesse Légionnaire (Luxembourg)

Louis Laforge was born on December 5, 1921. He enlisted in the in the Légion Wallonie in March 1942 and was demobilised after the Caucasus. He became *Chef de Pays de la Jeunesse Légionnaire* for Luxembourg in April 1943, with the rank of *Chef de Serment*.

He was transferred to the Division Wallonie in the autumn of 1944¹⁷⁶ and was probably killed in Stargard on March 3, 1945.



From left to right : Alexis Huijs, Freddy Jacques, Louis Laforge, unknown, Robert Denis and Jacques Poels.

LAFUENTE

Waffen-Hauptscharführer der SS

Lafuente¹⁷⁷ was platoon leader with the 3rd company of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 70 « Bucquoi »*.

¹⁷⁶ It's likely he held a rank of NCO, but this is not certain.

¹⁷⁷ Named as « La Puente » in Eddy De Bruyne's book. Most sources on Spanish volunteers call him « Lafuente ».

Jean LAITAT

*SS-Frw. Unterscharführer
Inspecteur provincial de la Brigade F du D.S.I (Mons)*

Jean Laitat was born on July 22, 1911. A Tobacco salesman, he joined Rex in 1935. He served as a *Sergent* in the 7^{ème} *Régiment de Chasseurs à pied* in 1940. He then worked for Rex's press department before being appointed to the office of Councillor for Works and Requisitions in Mons on 16 November 1943.

After this he was Commander of Brigade F of the D.S.I., which included about five members. He serves briefly in the Division Wallonie¹⁷⁸ until he is demobilised in January 1945. Then he was assigned to the policy team of the Rexist Liberation Committee.

Albert LAMBERT

*Légionnaire / Soldat
Chef de Cercle (Rex-Bastogne)*

Albert Lambert was born on 31 July 1907 in Longwilly (province of Luxembourg). He is a Blacksmith by trade and joins Rex in 1936. Chef de Cercle Rex-Bastogne until his enlistment in the Légion Wallonie at the end of July 1941. On January 8, 1943 he is excluded from the Légion and sentenced to prison for calling Degrelle a liar (or possibly for dissension over the use of the Légion).

In June 1943 he is pardoned and demobilised shortly after. Returning to Belgium, he worked as a driver for the SD in Arlon. Fleeing to Germany, he was part of the *Z.B.V. Kommando II*, until December 18, 1944. He ends the war in hospital and is executed by firing squad on February 1, 1948 in Arlon.

¹⁷⁸ Assumedly with a rank of a NCO, but it is not certain.

Lucien LAMBERT

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer



Ranks :

Caporal / Gefreiter¹⁷⁹

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Lucien Lambert was born on 28 January 1923 in Vresse (Namur province). On August 8, 1941 he enlisted in the Légion Wallonie and was assigned to the 4th company. He is decorated with *Infantry Assault badge* on September 10, 1942.

He fights in the 5th company of the SS-Sturmbrigade Wallonie in Cherkassy¹⁸⁰ and is chief of the second platoon of the 3rd Company of the *Kampfgruppe Derriks*, during the fighting at Schillersdorf from April 20 and 21, 1945. Lucien Lambert died after the war.

Georges LAMBORAY

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Georges Lamboray was born on February 3, 1900 in Spa (province of Liège). He enlisted in the Légion Wallonie in 1943. Served as a platoon commander with the 1st company of *Kampfgruppe Ruelle* in Estonia (August-September 1944).

¹⁷⁹ Promoted to this rank in March 1943.

¹⁸⁰ His father, Léon Lambert, was a pre-war provincial Rexist councillor, and was later head of Rex's South Dinant sector. He was shot and killed by resistance fighters in Petit-Fays (July 17, 1944). Wishing to avenge him, Lucien's younger brother, Roger, entered the Dinant Feldgendarmerie.

Hector LANDUCCI

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker



Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker¹⁸¹ : March 1945

Hector Landucci was born on April 16, 1925. Of Italian origin, he is a member of the Rexist Youth, and enlisted as a private soldier on March 10, 1942. Awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class* at an unknown date.

He is sent to the SS Officer School in Kienschlag for training between September 9 to March 31, 1945. He passes out as a *Standarten-Junker* and joins the Division Wallonie.

In April 1945 he was chief of the third platoon of the 4th company of the *Kampfgruppe Derriks*. On the night of 22-23 April 1945, Derriks sent him on a mission to Neu-Rosow on the morning of April 23, 1945 with 20 men¹⁸² to cover the withdrawal of the exhausted troops in Pomelen. They repelled several Soviet attacks in a matter of hours before Landucci was killed at around 3pm.

¹⁸¹ Mentioned as a *Hauptscharführer* in « For Rex and for Belgium », so possibly he was a *Standarten-Oberjunker*.

¹⁸² Gustave Paquot, Albert Verpoorten, Jean Hallebardier, Roland Devresse, Roger Gondry, Hector Landucci, Bayard, Van Malderen, Quinaud and eleven other Walloons.



La

Landucci with his “Marraine de Guerre” (literally Godmother for the war, Women who wrote to and sent parcels to lonely soldiers or those without families) Maryse De Heug, sister of volunteer Jacques De Heug), March 1942.

René LARUELLE

Sergent / Unteroffizier

René Laruelle was born on 14 September 1916 in Wanze (province of Liège). A Municipal secretary, he enlisted on August 8, 1941 serving with the 1st company of the Légion Wallonie, as a group chief (Degrelle served in his group). He won the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on March 10, 1942, after Gromowaja-Balka, where he was wounded in the back. He was convicted after the war.

Fernand LECOMTE

SS-Frw. Sturmmann

Chef-adjoint de Pays de la Jeunesse Légionnaire (Namur)

Ranks :

Caporal / Gefreiter

SS-Frw. Sturmmann¹⁸³ : October 1944

Fernand Lecomte was born on 4 December 1921 in Liège (province of Liège). He enlisted on August 8, 1941. Serving in the 3rd company on May 31, 1942, and won the *Iron Cross IInd Class*. He is wounded and decorated with a *Wounded badge* on September 10, 1942 then demobilised. He is *chef-adjoint de Pays de la Jeunesse Légionnaire* of Namur and from January 1944 he was interim head of the Jeunesse Légionnaire of Luxembourg and Namur.

In October 1944 he is assigned to the Division Wallonie and is killed in action in Altdamm in March 1945, as a member of *Kampfgruppe Derriks*.

¹⁸³ It is possible that he held a higher rank, but when he was demobilised at the end of 1942, he held the rank of *Gefreiter*.

Jean LEKEUX

SS-Frw. Obercharführer

Jean Lekeux was born on 1921 in Chockier. Enlisted on August 8, 1941 (with his brother Fernand). Wounded on June 1942 in Blagodatch. Comes back later to the Légion. Fights at Tcherkassy (FLAK company), where he is awarded the *Iron Cross 2nd Class*. Fights in Pomerania in 1945, as *Oberscharführer*, probably at the divisional staff. Die after war.



Jean Lekeux, on the right (with the staff secretary, José Janssens). We can distinguish EK II and armband « Wallonien ».



Lekeux (on the right) with Richard Somville, at the hospital, 1942.

André LEMPEREUR

Adjudant / Feldwebel



André Lempereur was born in 1918 in Brussels. He studies at the Athénée and is a non-commissioned officer in the Belgian army in the *1st Régiment Cycliste*. He participates in the May 1940 campaign.

A Rexist¹⁸⁴, he enlisted on August 8, 1941 serving as a platoon commander of 4th company. In early 1942 he is evacuated with scurvy, returning to the Légion on 10 August 1942. On August 24, 1942 he was killed in Cheriakoff.

¹⁸⁴ He was arrested in March 1941 by the Belgian police for wearing an illegal uniform (Formations de Combat) and was released five days later.

Maurice LEMPEREUR

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer



Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

Caporal / Gefreiter¹⁸⁵

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer : 1943

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer¹⁸⁶

Maurice Lempereur was born on 26 September 1916 in Strée (Hainaut province). He enlisted on August 8, 1941 and was assigned to the 4th company. On July 2, 1942 he was awarded the *Iron Cross 2nd Class*.

Chief of the first platoon of 4th company of the *SS-Sturmbrigade Wallonie*, he then commanded the 4th company of the *Kampfgruppe Ruelle* in Estonia, August-September 1944.

He died on January 26, 2009.

Florent LENOBLE

RAD-Feldmeister

Légionnaire / Soldat

NSKK-Mann

Florent Lenoble was born on December 17, 1918 in Gilly (Hainaut province). Employed at Gilly. In June 1940 after Belgium's defeat, he joined NSKK. He then enlisted in the Légion Wallonie on March 10, 1942 and was demobilised in August 1942 after being wounded, possibly during the Caucasus campaign. Until March 1943 he worked in the Unemployment Office before leaving to join SVTW. At the same time, he was also the commander of the 2nd Flamme of the 3rd Banner of the Formations de Combat of Charleroi (appointed on February 15, 1943).

He passed through the SVTW camps of Villers-la-Ville (until September 1943), Herbeumont (until mid-January 1944) then Lasnes. From May 1944 he was secretary to the Chief of Staff of the SVTW (Everard, then Relick). He also served as commander of the STW camp in Querum for some

¹⁸⁵ Promoted to this rank in March 1943.

¹⁸⁶ His final rank is often given as Oscha. But his obituary confirms Hscha.

time.

Charles LÉONARD

SS-Frw. Schütze

Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Schütze¹⁸⁷

Charles Léonard was on January 8, 1914 in Liege. On August 8, 1941 he was recruited as a Press correspondent. He won the *Iron Cross IInd Class* after the fighting on the Samara River on November 19, 1941. He was demobilised and joined NSKK. He worked for the SD in Liege. After fleeing to Germany, he joined the SS and was one of the Walloons who took radio courses in Marburg.

Pierre LIÉBART

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Pierre Liébart¹⁸⁸ was born on 16 July 1915 in Coutrai (province of West Flanders). He enlisted on August 8, 1941.

From August-September 1944 he was chief of the mortar platoon of the 4th company of the *Kampfgruppe Ruelle* fighting in Estonia. On August 25, 1944 he was wounded in the arm and thigh and was evacuated¹⁸⁹.

¹⁸⁷ He was a private soldier when he was demobilised from the Legion in 1942, it is likely he held the same rank when he joined the SS in Autumn 1944.

¹⁸⁸ He is called « Liebaert » in « Division Wallonie sur la Baltique ».

¹⁸⁹ According to Theo Verlaine he died shortly afterwards.

Pierre LOMBAES

Légionnaire / Soldat



Pierre Lombaes was born in 1920. He enlisted on August 8, 1941 and served with the 4th company. After being seriously wounded in Gromo, he died in hospital on March 19, 1942. He was posthumously awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on 19 November 1942.

Maurice LORIAUX

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker

Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker : March 1945

Maurice Loriaux was born in 1922 in Châtelet (Hainaut province). He enlisted on August 8, 1941 and fights as a non-commissioned officer at Cherkassy. It is likely he fought in Estonia, in the PAK company¹⁹⁰.

From 9 September 1944 to 31 March 1945¹⁹¹ he took an officer training course at the *SS-Panzer-Grenadier Schule* in Kienschlag. Returning to the front he joined the Division Wallonie and fought in *Kampfgruppe Derriks* at the end of the war. On May 2, 1945¹⁹² he was awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class*.

He died in 1985.

¹⁹⁰ Source: Theo Verlaine in his book « La Légion Wallonie ».

¹⁹¹ On completion of his course he would have been promoted to the rank of *Standarten-Junker*, he may even have been a *Standarten-OberJunker*.

¹⁹² Source: correspondence with Jean-Pierre Pirard, who has a copy of his soldbuch.

Yvan LOUPART

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Yvan Loupart¹⁹³ was born on August 12, 1917 in Etterbeek, near Brussels. He enlisted in the Légion in 1941 or 1942 and left it in 1943.

He later returned to it, probably in the autumn of 1944, he was chief of the third platoon of the 2nd company of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 « 'Serclaes de Tilly »*¹⁹⁴.

Frédéric De MAEYER

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Inspecteur provincial de la Brigade B du D.S.I. (Charleroi)

Frédéric De Maeyer was born on November 25, 1901. An accountant, he joined Rex in 1936. He joins the Mons municipal police in May 1940 and enlists in the Légion Wallonie in August 1941. He serves as an accountant in the staff company, remaining in this role until his demobilisation in May 1943.

From 1 January to 15 July 1944 he is commander of District VI (Fontaine-l'Evêque) in Greater Charleroi, he then succeeds Debry as *inspecteur provincial* of the Brigade B of the D.S.I. With this unit he participates in reprisal operations against the Ciney Maquis, and in the killings in Courcelles.

He joins Division Wallonie on October 10, 1944, as an accountant¹⁹⁵ in the 7th company of SS Regiment 69. On May 28, 1945 he is captured by the British. On November 10, 1947 he is executed by firing squad in Charleroi.

193 This name is given by Théo Verlaine and Jean-Pierre Pirard in correspondence with the author, it is not certain that he is the same man as the platoon commander in 2/69 (because there was also a « Maurice Emmanuel Loupart », born on 7 October 1907 in Saint-Gilles, enlisting on 8 August 1941).

194 Source : « Division Wallonie sur la Baltique » by Jean Mabire, page 364.

195 With the rank of *Unterscharführer*.

Albert MAHIEU

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer



Ranks :

Sergeant / Unteroffizier

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer : 01.06.1943

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer¹⁹⁶

Enlisted on August 8, 1941, from the Formations de combat, he serves in the 4th company. On August 15, 1942 he is awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class*. In 1943 he serves in Sturmbrigade Wallonie, after this his fate is unknown.

¹⁹⁶ Source : Théo Verlaine.

Pierre MALISSART

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker
Chef d'état-major de la Jeunesse Légionnaire



Ranks :

Sergent / Unteroffizier¹⁹⁷

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker : 09.09.1944

Pierre Malissart¹⁹⁸ was born on May 30, 1903¹⁹⁹. He enlisted on August 8, 1941 and was assigned to the 2nd company. On September 15, 1942 he was decorated with the *War Merit Cross IInd Class*.

He served as Chief of Staff of the Jeunesse Légionnaire from October 1943.²⁰⁰ Joined the Waffen-SS, and from May 1 to September 9, 1944. he attended the *SS-Panzergrenadierschule* in Kienschlag and was promoted to *Standarten-Junker* on September 9, 1944. He was then assigned to the *SS-Grenadier-Ausbildungs- und Ersatz-Battalion 36*.

¹⁹⁷ Promoted to this rank in March 1943.

¹⁹⁸ Sometimes spelt « Malisart » (notably in a document from the Kienschlag school), but « l'Honneur Légionnaire » confirms « Malissart ».

¹⁹⁹ According to Theo Verlaine he was born in 1908, this is a mistake.

²⁰⁰ According to Theo Verlaine he was an SS-PK.

Roger MANNAERT

SS-Frw. Sturmmann



Roger Mannaert was born on 4 November 1925, near Brussels, to a Belgian-Dutch father and a German-Luxembourgish mother. In July 1942, he joined the « Volontaires du travail », a Belgian youth work camp. He joined the Légion Wallonie in January 1943, as a private soldier, and donned the German uniform on February 1²⁰¹. From June to October 1943 he was in training at the Breslau-Lissa school (with Josy Graff's platoon). He fought at Cherkassy in the second platoon of the 8th company of the Sturmbrigade.

Appointed a NCO candidate, he served with the 9th company (infantry guns) of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69* « 'Serclaes de Tilly », which was in Breslau-Lissa training. He participated in the defence of the city against the Soviets from late January 1945 to the end of March, when was wounded in the left leg by a shell fragment²⁰². Mannaert most likely won his *Iron Cross IInd Class* during the fighting in Breslau.

Evacuated to a makeshift hospital, he was evacuated by plane to Berlin. Soviet troops captured the hospital and proceeded to shoot the doctors and rape the nurses. The wounded were miraculously spared when German paratroopers counter attacked and re-captured the buildings. An attempt was made to move the wounded to the American lines, but blocked, they turned back and were captured by the Russians. Mannaert is taken to a prison camp, where he poses as a German-speaking Belgian who had been forcibly conscripted by the Germans. He is repatriated to Belgium and was convicted by the courts.

Active in veterans' circles, he passed away on December 22, 2012.

201 His father tried to prevent his service even visiting the Germans to try and get him out. His father was part of a resistance network, and never forgave his son for joining the Legion.

202 Mannaert did not know the date, because he has lost track of time in the besieged city.



Servais MASSET

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer



Servais Masset was born on July 13, 1921 in Herstal (province of Liège). Along with his father and his brother Armand, Masset enlisted in the Légion in 1941. Serving as a *SS-Kriegsbericht*, in 1943 he wrote an article in Book 3 of the « Annales de la Légion Wallonie ». Then he acted as Editorial Secretary at the *Schülungsamt* (Annales de la Légion Wallonie) in Kulmbach.

In 1944-1945, he was assistant to Fernand De Ponthière at the *SS-Hauptamt* in Berlin.

Henri MERLOT

Chef de Cercle (Rex-Charleroi)
Adjudant / Feldwebel

Henri « Louis » Merlot was born on March 20, 1903 in Liege. A Haulier from Marchienne-sur-Pont and a member of Rex from 1936, he was the leader of the movement in his area holding the rank of *Chef de Groupe*.

On 8 August 1941 he enlisted with the Légion Wallonie and was assigned to the staff company. He was decorated with the *War Merit Cross IInd Class with Swords* on October 15, 1942, before being demobilised on January 27, 1943. He became *Chef de Cercle Rex-Charleroi*, and was appointed councillor for technical education, youth and sports in Greater Charleroi. He also founded a parallel police force, the « Merlot police », which was the precursor to the D.S.I.

In 1944 he oversaw organising the Rexist withdrawal from Belgium. Degrelle himself entrusted him with the management of the Rexist village of Arzel. On November 10, 1947 he was executed by firing squad in Charleroi, for his involvement in the 1944 reprisals (Courcelles, etc.).

Paul MEZETTA

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer
Prévôt de la Jeunesse Légionnaire



Ranks :

Caporal-chef / Obergefreiter

Sergent / Unteroffizier : 06.02.1942

Adjutant / Feldwebel : September (?) 1942

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer²⁰³

Paul Mezetta was born into a family of Italian origin on 25 March 1917 in Trazegnies (Hainaut province). He spent his youth in Grasse, France and worked as a lady's hairdresser²⁰⁴ before participating in the May 1940 campaign, in the *15th Régiment d'Artillerie*. Taken prisoner, he was released and enlisted in the Légion Wallonie joining on August 8, 1941²⁰⁵.

Awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on March 2, 1942, at the same time as being promoted to the rank of *Unteroffizier*. A platoon commander with the 3rd company of the Légion Wallonie, he was seriously wounded on August 22, 1942, during the Caucasus campaign and then demobilised. He was awarded the *Iron Cross Ist Class* and was promoted *adjutant*.

In April 1943 he is appointed *Prévôt de la Jeunesse Légionnaire* by Léon Degrelle. But Mezetta attracted the attention of his superiors with his inappropriate behaviour, he had multiple affairs with young Légionnaires!²⁰⁶

In 1944 along with about 10 other Walloons, he caught a plane from Breslau to Estonia to join the Sturmbrigade. Joining Marcel Bonniver's 4th company, they (with a few isolated Germans) fought for three days and three nights without support, orders or food.²⁰⁷

203 Source : Eddy De Bruyne, in his organizationnal chart of Division Wallonie.

204 He is known for posing as a medical student.

205 His brother, who stayed in Grasse, was a double agent in the service of the OSS.

206 A discreet investigation was ordered by Lippert and carried out by Albert Lassois. Despite evidence against Mezetta, Degrelle allowed him to keep his position.

207 The 20 surviving Walloons all receive the Iron Cross Ist Class, except for Mezetta, who already has it. He

From October to December 1944²⁰⁸ he attends a course at the Sophienwalde Military Academy, after this he is appointed Ordnance Officer at the I Battalion Headquarters of the SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 "Serclaes de Tilly". During the Ardennes offensive, he joined Degrelle in Limerlé, Belgium, from 2 to 6 January 1945. The Walloon detachment pass through Laroche, where they arrest the Mayor. It is likely that he saw combat with a German unit during the Battle of the Bulge²⁰⁹.

Out on patrol²¹⁰ with the 1st Company of SS 69 Regiment on March 4, 1945, Mezetta was seriously wounded in Streesen by a shell blast, transported to Streesen Castle, he died shortly afterwards²¹¹.



receives no higher award due to his disciplinary record.

208 According to Mabire, he misses out on promotion to *Untersturmführer* due to his inappropriate behaviour towards a German nurse.

209 He is one of the very few Walloons to have fought on the Western Front.

210 Degrelle instructed Mezetta's company commander to assign him to dangerous actions.

211 According to some sources, his body was brought back across the Oder to be buried, while according to others (Mabire), he was buried in the cemetery at Stettin Harbour.



Mezetta (in the middle) with French and Croats volunteers.



Jean MICHAËLIS

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer



Ranks :

Sergent / Unteroffizier

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer: 01.06.1943

Jean Michaëlis was born on February 6, 1918 in Huy (province of Liège). His Father was the Procureur du Roi in Huy (a senior government prosecutor). He enlisted in the Légion Wallonie in August 1941, with the rank of *Unteroffizier* and serves as commander of the third combat group of the first platoon of the 1st company. He considers himself a playboy and recites poetry to his men.

He fights in the Cherkassy campaign, as an *Unterscharführer* in the 1st company. In 1970 he is seriously injured in a car accident which leaves him crippled and he loses all contact with his former comrades. On the night of July 18-19, 1996, he died in Huy leaving an unpublished memoir (three volumes, about 250 pages) entitled « Récit de Tcherkassy ».

Léon MICHAUX

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer



Ranks :

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer: 1943

Léon Michaux²¹² was born on November 1, 1912 in Gosselies (Hainaut province). He enlisted on August 8, 1941 and was chief of the second platoon of the 3rd company of the Sturmbrigade Wallonie, until January 14, 1944.

Joseph MIGNON

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker

Ranks:

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker: 09.09.1944

Joseph Mignon²¹³ was born on May 9, 1903. He was chief of the light flak section (three 20 mm Flak 38 guns) of the 7th company of the *SS-Sturmbrigade Wallonie*, with the rank of *Unterscharführer*²¹⁴.

After completing his training at the *SS-Panzer Grenadierschule* in Kienschlag from May 1 to September 9, 1944, he was promoted to *Standarten-Junker*.

212 First name given by Théo Verlaine (in correspondence with the author).

213 His nephew, Pierre Mignon, also served in the Legion, and ended the war as an officer.

214 Awarded the *Wounded badge* at the end of 1944 and the *Infantry Assault Badge*.

Lucien MIGNON

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Lucien Mignon was born in 1921. Residing in Verviers, he joined the Légion Wallonie in August 1941. He fought in Estonia in August 1944, in the 2nd company, as *Unterscharführer*. He was awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class and Ist Class*²¹⁵.

He died in 1981.

Pascal MINET

Caporal-chef / Obergefreiter

Pascal Minet was born on 15 March 1915 in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, he enlisted with the Légion Wallonie on August 8, 1941. Assigned to the 1st company, as a driver he was wounded during the Caucasus campaign and on July 7, 1942 was awarded the *Iron Cross IInd class*.

He then became a caretaker at Degrelle's villa. He was involved in the murder of an abbot in Ottignies in 1944. On 26 June 1948 he was executed by firing squad in Nivelles.

Albert MOLHAN

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Albert Molhan²¹⁶ was born on May 5, 1918 in Weyler (province of Luxembourg). In 1943 he was chief of the second platoon of the 9th company of the Sturmbrigade Wallonie.

²¹⁵ Source : author's correspondence with Jean-Pierre Pirard.

²¹⁶ Jean Mabire calls him « Moland » and does not mention his first name. Jean-Pierre Pirard uses « Albert Molhan ». Other sources call him « Bolen » (pseudonym).

Ernest MOREAU

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer



Ranks :

Sergent / Unteroffizier

Adjutant / Feldwebel

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer : 01.06.1943

Ernest Moreau was born in Soignies (Hainaut province). He enlisted on August 8, 1941, holding the rank of *Unteroffizier*. Nicknamed « Petit Paquet », he is one of the chiefs of the « CLique » (military music) of the Légion Wallonie²¹⁷. He is promoted to *Feldwebel* and was still present in the Sturmbrigade in 1943. He then held the rank of *Oberscharführer*.

Died in 1985.

²¹⁷ Léon Deltenre held this position in 1941 (and possibly 1942 ?) and from the autumn of 1944. This means Moreau filled the role in the interim period.

Henri MOREAU

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer



Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Rottenführer

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer²¹⁸

Henri Moreau was born into a peasant family on 16 December 1920 in Mons (Hainaut province). He enlisted on August 8, 1941 and took part in all the campaigns of the Légion Wallonie, as a member of the 4th company.

He fought in Estonia, in the 4th company. On August 25, 1944, he was fighting with a group of Walloons and Germans who stopped the attack of a Soviet tank battalion. A shell cut off his arm and both hands (also killing about twenty men around him). He manages to escape to the rear, while helping another injured person²¹⁹ and is evacuated by the sea and hospitalised. Shortly before the end of the war²²⁰ he was appointed *Oberscharführer*, on the recommendation of a German officer. He was one of the most severely wounded Burgundians to survive the war²²¹.

218 Theo Verlaine states he was promoted to *Hauptscharführer* during his convalescence. This is unlikely as Moreau was an *Unterscharführer* in Estonia, so it is logical that he would be promoted to *Oberscharführer*.

219 A seventeen-year-old Frenchman, Labeau, who had lost his leg.

220 Moreau won the *Iron Cross 1st and 2nd Class*, the *Ost Medal*, the *Wound badge in Gold* and the *Close Combat Clasp in Gold*. This makes him one of the most decorated Walloons. His decisive intervention in Estonia could potentially have earned him the Knight's Cross, but there was no official report on his action.

221 He lost his entire right arm, and his left hand.

He was captured by the Americans at Gromau in May 1945 and imprisoned in a camp at Augsburg. At the end of September 1945 despite his disability he managed to escape! Recaptured in Munich, he was transferred to Garmish-Partenkirchen and then Bad Wiesse, where he stayed for two years. He is fitted with prostheses and a few months later, on the advice of his lawyer, he returned to Belgium to be sentenced to ten years' imprisonment. Held in Merksplas, he was released on 2 April 1949, following an intervention by the Minister of Justice Paul Struye²²².

In 1972, he published his memoirs, « La Neige et le Sang », under the pseudonym « Paul Terlin ». Moreau died on February 26, 2008 in Berchem Sainte-Agathe.



²²² During a visit to prison, the minister asked Moreau if he regretted his mistakes, he replied :

« Mr. Minister, I regret only the lack of humanity shown by your services towards severely disabled war veterans. Our only crime is to have accepted to die for ideas that are themselves dead today. But we must be pursued with blind hatred to hide your own bankruptcy. »

Pierre MOREAU

SS-Frw. Sturmmann



Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Sturmmann²²³

Pierre Moreau was born on May 12, 1925 in Laeken, near Brussels. He enlisted with his older brother²²⁴ on March 10, 1942. He fights in the Caucasus campaign and after suffering frostbitten toes he was evacuated and hospitalised for three months. On 26 May 1943 his father was shot dead by the resistance and he was demobilised ordered to return to Belgium to look after his mother. He takes up a post with the Jeunesse Légionnaire.

In September 1944 he re-enlisted the Division Wallonie where he was sent to the *SS-Panzer Grenadierschule* in Kienschlag-Neweklau. However, he was unable to tolerate the rigid discipline and soon left school. In February 1945 he fought in Pomerania, where he was wounded and hospitalised before re-joining the division in April. He was taken prisoner by the Canadians.

After the war, he became a pharmacist and married Georges Thonon's cousin. He writes « Une encyclique singulière sous le IIIème Reich » and the revisionist book about Oradour « En écoutant crier les pierres ». He was chief of a large family²²⁵ before suffering from Parkinson's disease for many years and died on July 11, 2011 (the same year as his brother Jean), in Petit Enghien.

Léon MOTTE

Adjudant / Feldwebel

Léon Motte was born on 25 December 1913 in Schaerbeek, a suburb of Brussels. He enlisted on August 8, 1941, and served as a clerk in the 1st company.

Decorated with the *War Merit Cross IInd Class with Swords* on September 15, 1942. He was demobilised and sent back to Belgium to take manage the finances of the Jeunesse Légionnaire. After the war he was convicted.

²²³ It is likely he attained at least this rank with his being a Caucasus veteran and his time in Kienschlag.

²²⁴ Jean Moreau, who finished the war as an officer. A third brother, named Paul, joined Division Wallonie in the autumn of 1944 and was killed in the first battles of the division in 1945. Their mother died of grief in prison after the war.

²²⁵ He had 9 children and 33 grandchildren.

Égide MÜLLER

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer



Egide Müller²²⁶ was born in 1913. Originally from Spa, he joined the Légion in August 1941. Serving in the 8th, then 4th company, he participates in the Caucasus campaign at the rank of *Légionnaire*.

Promoted to *Unterscharführer* he commands the third platoon of the 2nd company of SS-Sturmbrigade Wallonie until November 1943. Promoted again he now commands the second platoon of the 3rd company²²⁷. On 17 January 1944 his unit is surprised by the approach of tanks in an isba near Teklino, he is hit in the chest by shrapnel and killed.

²²⁶ Not to be confused with Émile Müller, another non-commissioned officer.

²²⁷ Lefèvre/Mabire (page 139 of « Léon Degrelle et la Légion Wallonie ») assign him to the 5th company...

Émile MÜLLER

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer



Promotions :

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer : 1944

Émile Müller was born on November 20, 1923 in Liège. A student and a convinced National Socialist, he joined the Légion Wallonie in August 1941, one of the first to do so. He was wounded in Gromowaja-Balka and loses some of his mobility in his left arm at the elbow, and some of his right foot.

Müller is the *Spiess* of the 3rd company of Sturmbrigade Wallonie in Cherkassy²²⁸ and is awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class*. He served in Pomerania as the chief of the runners of the Ist Battalion of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 70 « Bucquoi »*²²⁹.

After the war, he was one of the founder members of the Association of Walloon Veterans of the Eastern Front, who were strongly anti-Degrelle. He was also a member of the German *Stahlhelm* (from June 1969) and in 1979 became a member of the *Stellvertretender Landesführer Europa*. On August 12, 1980 he died in Herstal²³⁰.

228 When Leon Degrelle published his book « Hitler pour 1000 ans », Müller protested that Degrelle claimed a little too much credit for the defensive successes of the Sturmbrigade.

229 He prevented the hanging of three Polish-Ukrainian women, whom Feldgendarmarie were eager to hang for looting. They had stolen (or was it a « gift » from German soldiers?) a few cans from a depot.

230 Or in 1982 according to Theo Verlaine.

Marcel NICOLAS

Adjudant-chef / Oberfeldwebel

Promotions :

Soldat / Légionnaire

Adjudant-chef / Oberfeldwebel: 20.02.1942

Marcel Nicolas was born on March 3, 1916 in Forest, near Brussels. He enlisted on August 8, 1941 (registration number 589). Although he was a *sous-lieutenant* in the DTCA of the Belgian army, he enlisted as a private.

He commands the second platoon of the 2nd company of the Légion Wallonie, he proves himself in this position, so commander Pauly promotes him to the rank of *adjudant-chef* ! On February 28, 1942 he is killed in Gromowaja-Balka.

Ernest NILE

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Ranks :

Sergent / Unteroffizier²³¹

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer : 01.06.1943

Ernest Nile was born on April 21, 1905. A member of Rex from 1936, he enlisted on August 8, 1941 and served with the 4th company of the Légion Wallonie winning the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on March 2, 1942. From 4 May 1944 he was appointed editor-in-chief of the « Le Combattant SS »²³², succeeding Charles Vryman. He wrote numerous articles in Légion newspapers. He was involved in the murder of the mayor of Wavre on August 6, 1944.

On the run at the Liberation, he was still wanted in 1948.

Raphaël NIX

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker

Raphaël Nix was born on 20 September 1911 in Schaerbeek, near Brussels. He enlisted on August 8, 1941, as a war correspondent.

He attended the *SS-Panzer Grenadierschule* in Kienschlag from May 1 to September 9, 1944, and on completion of the course he was promoted to *Standarten-Junker*. He was then assigned to the *SS-Grenadier-Ausbildungs- und Ersatz-Battalion 36*, before working for Bureau R (a branch of the *Walloon SS Ersatzkommando*) who hunted down deserters (under the direction of Jules Frunken).

Convicted after the war, on February 10, 1951 he forfeited his nationality.

²³¹ Promoted in March 1943 probably after being decorated.

²³² With Louis Bergmans as editorial secretary.

Jules NOLLET

Sergent / Unteroffizier

Jules Nollet was born in 1893 in Ixelles, near Brussels. He enlisted on August 8, 1941, and was assigned to the 1st company, and in May 1942 was awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class*. During the fighting at Jablenskaya, of late 1942 he was wounded and evacuated.

Henri PHILIPPET

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer



Promotions :

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer²³³

Henri Philippet was born on August 17, 1924 in Liers (province of Liège), into a family that initially held Socialist views but converted to Rexism²³⁴. On completing his Greek-Latin studies at a Catholic school, he joined the Légion Wallonie on August 8, 1941, aged seventeen, he is assigned to the 1st company.

A veteran of all campaigns, as an *Oberscharführer* he commands a platoon of the 2nd company of the *Kampfgruppe Ruelle* in Estonia during August 1944. He is wounded in combat on August 19, 1944 and evacuated²³⁵. From March-April 1945 he attends a training course the SS Officer School in Bad Tölz.

He remained hidden for several years in Germany after the war, before being denounced and brought back to Belgium. Philippet wrote his war memories: « Et mets ta robe de bal », in two volumes. He was very active in veterans' circles and died on January 30, 2006.

²³³ Source : bulletin du Dernier Carré number 55. In any case, he was promoted after 12 September 1944.

²³⁴ His father, Jean Philippet, is head of Rex in Liers, and joined Division Wallonie in September 1944.

²³⁵ Philippet was awarded the *Iron Crosses Ist and IInd Class*, the *Infantry Assault Badge* and the *Wounded Badge, the Close Combat Clasp in Silver*.

Georges PHILIPS

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer



Ranks :

Caporal-chef / Obergefreiter

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer²³⁶

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Georges Philips²³⁷ was born in 1903. He enlisted on August 8, 1941, served as an *Obergefreiter* in the 3rd company during the Caucasus campaign, and was awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on September 15, 1942.

Chief of the first platoon of the 3rd company of the SS-Sturmbrigade in 1943. At the beginning of 1944 he was replaced by Hellin. He was one of a handful of Walloon volunteers received by Goebbels on their return from Cherkassy (Philips appeared in German newspapers, reporting this episode).

He led a platoon of the 6th company of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69* in April 1945 and was seriously wounded on 27 April 1945 in Schönwerder, he died at Dr Baanante's aid post.

He was one of the most decorated Walloons, holding the *Iron Cross Ist Class*, the *Infantry Assault Badge*, the *Close Combat Clasp in Silver* and the *Wounded Badge in Black*²³⁸.



²³⁶ He held this rank in the spring of 1944, as shown in this picture, taken during his meeting with Goebbels.

²³⁷ He is named « Jean » by Théo Verlaine (this is a mistake, he confused him with Jean Philips, who went missing in Cherkassy. Source : correspondence with the author). De Bruyne and Mabire named him « Georges ». His last name is sometimes written « Philipps » (Jean Mabire), or even « Phillips ». Verlaine confirms « Philips » (correspondence with the author).

²³⁸ Source : the author's correspondence with Jean-Pierre Pirard.

Jacques PIERRARD

RAD-Feldmeister
Sergent / Unteroffizier

Jacques Pierrard was born on March 3, 1917 in Chiny (province of Luxembourg). A career non-commissioned officer, he was a member of Rex and the Formations de Combat. He enlisted in the Légion Wallonie on 8 August 1941, probably keeping his non-commissioned officers rank. He is demobilised at an unknown date.

He undertakes RAD training in Miltenberg, from April 20 to July 15, 1943 and is Deputy Commander of the Ohrum camp until December 17, 1944 and then Deputy Commandery of the Bodenstedt camp.

Georges PIESSEVAUX

SS-Frw. Scharführer
Chef de Pays de la Jeunesse Légionnaire (Hainaut)



Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat²³⁹

SS-Frw. Scharführer

Georges Piessevaux was born in 1918 in Brussels. Until February 1941 he was Secretary to the Provost Marshal of the Jeunesse Légionnaire. He enlists on March 10, 1942 and participates in the Caucasus campaign, in the 3rd company. On September 15, 1942 he was awarded the *Iron Cross 2nd Class*.

Demobilised in 1943, he became an instructor to the « Chevalerie » (school) de la Jeunesse Légionnaire, then at the end of August 1943, he was *Chef de Pays de la Jeunesse Légionnaire* of Hainaut, with the rank of *Chef de Bannière*. He was one of the most senior leaders of the organization to follow his young people when they were transferred to the 28th SS division in September 1944.

After Mezetta's death in Streesen, Piessevaux chose to serve with the 1st company of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 « 'Serclaes de Tilly' »*²⁴⁰. He was deputy platoon commander

²³⁹ He still held this rank in March 1943.

²⁴⁰ Where many former members of the Jeunesse Légionnaire served.

Leroy's assistant in the 1st company of the *Kampfgruppe « Derriks »* when a sniper seriously wounded him on April 20, 1945.

Piessevaux died in 1975.



Roger PIGEON

Caporal / Gefreiter

Served with the 2nd company and awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on September 2, 1942.

Daniel PIROT

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer



Daniel²⁴¹ Pirot was born on February 14, 1923. He enlisted on March 10, 1942 and from December 1943 he was chief of the third platoon of the 3rd company of the SS-Sturmbrigade Wallonie. He was wounded in the neck during the Cherkassy campaign.

241 First name confirmed by Théo Verlaine (source : correspondence with the author).

Fernand De PONTHIÈRE

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer



Fernand De Ponthière was born on January 6, 1919, in France. He worked as a journalist from 1935, a law student in Liège, he works as a journalist on the « Le Pays Réel ». A member of the Gardes Wallonnes, he joined the Légion Wallonie on 7 December 1941²⁴² and was wounded in the Caucasus.

In 1944, he was assigned to the *SS-Hauptamt*, office C/I (ideological instruction), as head of the Walloons in section C/I. He also works as a journalist for the « Le Combattant Européen » and « Jeune Europe » and writes for the « Annales de la Légion Wallonie ». He married a German woman in Berlin at the end of the war and remained in Germany (forfeiting his nationality in 1948).



Ponthière (left) with the Flemish *Kriegsbericht* Piet Feuillein.

²⁴² His brother Jean was released from a Stalag and joined Formation B Formation in Huy, he was shot dead in August 1944 by resistance fighters. His father, a general practitioner, escaped a murder attempt in 1943. He fled to Germany after the Liberation.

André POULET

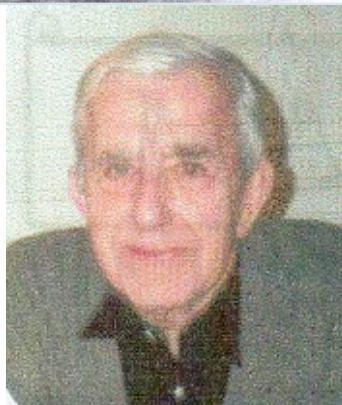
SS-Frw. Sturmmann

André Poulet was born on October 20, 1923 in Spa (province of Liège). He enlisted in the Waffen-SS at the end of 1942 and trained at the Sennheim camp in Alsace (with mainly Dutch and Flemish volunteers).

Assigned to Sturmbrigade Wallonie, in July 1943 he arrived in Wildflecken. At first, he is a member the 1st company before transferring to the 7th company. In December 13, 1943 he was one of the few survivors of the Van Eyzer Platoon patrol. After this he was assigned as a machine gunner to the 1st company and wounded in the arm during a counterattack in the Teklino forest.

He participates in the fighting in Estonia, where he is one of only two survivors of a disastrous patrol, led by Lieutenant Verenne. Poulet then moved to Cabaret's platoon in the 2nd company. Here he was seriously wounded and left for dead. Poulet regained consciousness in the night.

In 1945, Poulet participated in the Pomeranian campaign. He serves in the rear and is exposed to much less danger. Along with the remains of Division Wallonie he is taken prisoner by the Americans and handed over to the Belgians. They sentenced him to life imprisonment, but his sentence is reduced to fifteen years' hard labour. After working at the Zwartberg mine and the railways, he was released in October 1949. He is very active in veterans' circles, including the « Dernier Carré » and died on January 10, 2005 in Embourg.



Gérard QUOIDBACH

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Ranks:

Caporal / Gefreiter²⁴³

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker: 09.09.1944

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer²⁴⁴

Gérard Quoidbach was born on 22 September 1916 in Saint-Hubert (province of Luxembourg). He enlisted in the Légion Wallonie in August 1941 and was decorated with the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on May 21, 1942.

He was chief of the fourth platoon of the 3rd company in the SS-Sturmbrigade Wallonie until March 1944, when he returned after the battle of Cherkassy (he was then promoted to *Oberscharführer*).

From May 1 to September 9, 1944 he attended a training course at the *SS-Panzer Grenadierschule* in Kienschlag. He was then assigned to the *SS-Grenadier-Ausbildungs- und Ersatz-Battalion 36*. Quoidbach lived at least until 2001.

²⁴³ His promotion date is unknown, but according to "L'Honneur Légionnaire", he held the rank of *Gefreiter* in March 1943...

²⁴⁴ Theo Verlaine and Le Dernier Carré quote him as an *Untersturmführer*. This is probably confusing him with Raoul Quoidbach...

Jean-Pierre QUOIRIN

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer
Inspecteur général de la Jeunesse Légionnaire
Chef de Pays de la Jeunesse Rexiste (Liège)



Ranks :

SS-Frw. Sturmmann : 26.10.1943

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer : 01.02.1944

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer : November 1944

Jean-Pierre Quoirin was born on 25 January 1915 in Bressoux (province of Liège). From 1928 he was a member of the l'Association Catholique de la Jeunesse Belge, before joining the Jeunesse Rexiste in 1935, he also founded the Scout troop of Liège. After working as an Accountant, he participates in the 18-day campaign and is demobilised on June 10, 1940. In May 1941, he became head of the Jeunesse Rexiste in Liège, succeeding André Marissal.

From May 7 to August 23, 1941 he was *Chef de Pays* of the Jeunesse Rexiste in Liège. After this he becomes Regional Secretary of the Jeunesse Rexiste of Etendart I (grouping the Roman regions), before enlisting in the Légion Wallonie on March 10, 1942. His superior Hagemans retained him in Belgium²⁴⁵ and appointed him Chief of Staff of the Jeunesse Rexiste on January 17, 1942. In April 1943, when the collaborationist youth organizations merged, he became *Inspecteur Général* (in charge of organizing the services of the senior officials) of the Jeunesse Légionnaire.

As a result of conflict with Rexist chief Mezetta, he joined the Waffen-SS on 26 October 1943 to further develop his position. He joined Sturmbrigade Wallonie just before he left for the front. Quoirin fought with the 3rd company, with the rank of *Sturmmann* and on January 21, 1944 received the *Iron Cross 2nd Class* from SS General Gille. He was wounded twice, on 7 February in Starosilje and 13 February in Nowo-Buda. He was then awarded the *Iron Cross 1st Class* and demobilised in May 1944 (he participated in the Sturmbrigade parade in Brussels). He again became Chief of Staff of the Jeunesse Légionnaire and also wrote a column (the *Chronique aux parents*) in the newspaper L'Assaut.

In September 1944 he fled to Hanover in Germany, with his young people. He worked in
245 Theo Verlaine is mistaken in saying that he participated in the Caucasus campaign.

Hildesheim at the Bureau Central pour l'Evacuation. He unsuccessfully opposes the plans of Degrelle and Mezetta²⁴⁶ to force the incorporation of his charges into the Division Wallonie. At the end of November 1944, he went to Degrelle's home to suggest that around fifty young people be sent to Bad Tolz. Degrelle accepted and appointed Quoirin an *Oberscharführer*, to give him greater military authority over his young people.

Quoirin continues his work with the BCE²⁴⁷ and in March 1945, he lobbied Degrelle to demobilise the young people. Degrelle agreed to release those in *Ersatz Battalion 36* and wounded youths in Alfeld. But even this promise was not kept. In early April 1945 a disappointed Quoirin decided to re-join his comrades at the front. He was assigned to the 1st company of Regiment 69, as deputy company commander, with the rank of *Oberscharführer* and was wounded twice more on April 21, 1945 in the final battles in Schillersdorf.

Quoirin died in 1998.



Quoirin shaking hands with General Gilles, January 1944, during his award ceremony. Georges Thonon (on his right) and Roland Devresse (on his left)

246 He argues that the morale of the young people is low, and that their parents oppose the incorporation.

247 Bureau Central pour l'Évacuation.

Paul RELICK

*RAD-Oberstfeldmeister
Légionnaire / Soldat*

Paul Relick was born on February 26, 1917. He earned a degree in commercial sciences, was a member of Rex from 1937, and in October 1940 joined the Formations de Combat. He then held the position of Administrative Secretary at the Office of Prices and Wages.

On March 10, 1942 he enlisted in the Légion Wallonie and was most likely demobilised after the Caucasus campaign. After attending a training course from 15 March to 10 June 1943 at the *Truppführerschule IV* of the RAD, in Calw, Relick is placed in charge of organizing the recruitment for SVTW in Brussels, with the rank of RAD officer. After the withdrawal to Germany, he was Chief of Staff of the STW, with the rank of *Oberstfeldmeister*.

André RENOTTE

*RAD-Feldmeister
Sergent / Unteroffizier*

André Renotte was born on 15 July 1918 in Brussels. After joining Rex in 1936, he served as a temporary agent at the State Security Service in 1939, and a reserve *lieutenant* in the Army. He was then attached to the supply service of the city of Brussels.

He enlisted on August 8, 1941 and serves the 2nd company of the Légion Wallonie. He won the *Iron Cross IInd Class* at Gromowaja-Balka. Following his demobilisation in March 1943 (he held the rank of *Unteroffizier*), he attended a training course from 15 March to 10 June 1943 at the *Truppführerschule IV* of the RAD, in Calw. He was then appointed Head of the Teaching Section in the SVTW Education Office in May 1944 and became an officer in June 1944.

From November 1944 he commanded the first platoon at STW camp in Ohrum. At the end of the war he was serving in the SVTW staff as head of the Training Office.

Louis RICHARD

*Sergent / Unteroffizier
Commandant d'Etendart des Formations de Combat*

Louis Richard was born on October 2, 1912. In 1940 he served as a *Sergent* in the 2nd *Régiment de Lanciers*. He was Deputy to Peeters, the commander of the 1st Brigade of the Formations de Combat (Brussels), replacing him after his arrest in September 1940. In June 1941 he was promoted to Commander of Etendart of Formations de Combat, leading Etendart I (the boroughs of Brussels, Tournai, Ath, Soignies, Nivelles, Waremmes, Mouscron).

He enlisted on August 8, 1941 (probably with the rank of *Sergent*, his Army rank). He was demobilised after being wounded in Gromowaja-Balka in February 1942 and then worked as a recruiter for the Brussels SD²⁴⁸.

248 Source: Théo Verlaine in « La Légion Wallonie ».

Raoul ROLAND

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Raoul Roland was born on March 1, 1915 in Soignies (Hainaut province). He enlisted in the Légion Wallonie in the contingent of 23 July 1942.

In March 1945 he commands the staff section of the 2nd company of *Kampfgruppe Derriks* and serves in the first platoon in April 1945. After Jean Piron's injury during the fighting at Schillersdorf, on April 20, 1945, he took the command of the platoon.

Gaston ROSE

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

RAD-Feldmeister

Adjutant / Feldwebel

Gaston Rose was born on November 18, 1903. A Civil engineer he served as an officer in the Formations de Combat, before enlisting in the Légion Wallonie on 8 August 1941. He was demobilised after the Caucasus (he served in the 4th company) and was decorated with the *War Merit Cross IInd Class with Swords* on September 15, 1942.

From March to June 1943 he attended a RAD training course and then worked for Service K, which was responsible for collecting information on existing prisoners of war who could be repatriated. After a period in the STW as an *Unterfeldmeister* he joins Division Wallonie as an *Oberscharführer*, he was reported missing during the retreat to the West²⁴⁹.

249 Source « Dernier Carré » number 90.

François-Joseph SACCO

Adjudant-chef / Oberfeldwebel
Commandant de Flamme des Formations de Combat (VIII^{ème} Bannière)



François-Joseph Sacco was born on June 6, 1907. An Electrician, he became a member of Rex in 1936, as the delegate in charge of party propaganda in the Mons district. He commands the 8th *Bannière* of Mons Formations de Combat.

He enlists in the Légion Wallonne on 8 August 1941, with the rank of *Oberfeldwebel* and is demobilised on March 24, 1942. He was appointed Director of the Maison Wallonne in Charleroi on 15 February 1944. In September 1944 he escaped to Germany.

Nicolas SACHNOWSKY

SS-Fachführer / SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Nicolas Sachnowsky²⁵⁰ was born on April 25, 1904 in St. Petersburg, Russia. A White Russian taking refuge in Brussels he enlisted in the Légion Wallonie in 1942²⁵¹.

He was the *Gasschutz-Offizier*²⁵² of Division Wallonie, with the rank of *SS-Fachführer / Hauptscharführer* but was detached from the division on January 30, 1945, to recruit Russian-speaking volunteers for Skorzeny's units. He travelled to Lüben, Altenburg, Bad-Wauben, Vienna, Prague and Berlin, where a propaganda meeting was held on February 12, 1945²⁵³.

Fleeing to Argentina after the war, he became an Orthodox priest in the suburbs of Buenos Aires and died in 1991.



Sachnowsky (extreme left) at a post war reunion of Walloon veterans, Buenos Aires 1952.



Around 1970 in exile.

250 Louis Fierens, in his war diary, named him « von Sachowsky ». His name is sometimes written « Sakhnowski ».

251 With his brother Pierre.

252 Combat Gas Prevention Officer.

253 Only twenty individuals were recruited, and only three or four join *Jagdkommando-Ost*.

Pierre SACHNOWSKY

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer²⁵⁴

Pierre Sachnowsky was born on April 3, 1907 in St. Petersburg, Russia. A Professional biologist he joined the Légion Wallonie in February 1942 before being seconded to serve in a civilian hospital from June 1943 to September 1944.

He was served the staff company of the *Dienststelle Jungclaus* and then, in the Ist Battalion of the SS Regiment 70 of Division Wallonie, as a medical assistant to Dr. Banaante. At the end of December 1944, he requested his transfer to the civil hospital in Hildesheim, and at the end of the war he was at the University of Bonn, laboratory and contagious diseases section, as an assistant to Dr. Weiland.

Louis SARTILLOT

RAD-Oberfeldmeister

Sergent / Unteroffizier

Louis Sartillot was born on March 2, 1911 in Quaregnon (Hainaut province). A Lawyer from 1936, he was *chef de Section Rex-Quaregnon*. He enlisted in the Légion Wallonie on August 8, 1941 and was demobilised round about May 1943, most likely with a non-commissioned officers rank²⁵⁵.

From January 3 to April 1, 1944 he trained with the R.A.D in Weimar and this led to him becoming the provincial head of administration for R.A.D. After this he transferred to Rex's Department K and to the SVTW's legal department, which he led with the rank of *Feldmeister*, a position he kept in Germany (he was also promoted). He was briefly Mayor of the Greater Charleroi, after Englebin's murder on August 17, 1944.

254 Source : Eddy De Bruyne, « Encyclopédie de l'Ordre Nouveau », who has him holding this rank from September 1944.

255 It seems likely, given the length of time Sartillot spent at the Légion Wallonie.

Alphonse STEENEBRUGGEN

Caporal / Gefreiter

Alphonse Steenebruggen²⁵⁶ was born in 1898 in Uccle, near Brussels. He was a veteran of the First World War and *Chef de Fanion* in the Formations de Combat. He enlisted on August 8, 1941. And was assigned to the 1st company. In the fighting at Gromowaja-Balka he was knocked out by a wound to the base of his skull, he was presumed dead by his comrades. But Steenebruggen got up moments later. He was awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class* on March 10, 1942.

He was then demobilised and worked in the central services of the l'Honneur Légionnaire (the Légion's welfare department). After the war he was sentenced to a prison term and he died of an illness before his release.

Franz STEURS

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Franz Steurs was born on May 9, 1909. He was Journalist at « La Flandre libérale » before the war and a member of AGRA (Amis du Grand Reich Allemand). From November 1940 he worked as editor-in-chief of « La Gazette de Charleroi ». He served on the Belgo-Russian Committee of the Anti-Bolshevik Exhibition in Brussels. From 1942 he was an *SS-Kriegsbericht*.

²⁵⁶ He is sometimes called « Steingrubben ». It is a mistake.

Leonid STOUPINE

Adjudant / Sonderführer

Leonid Stoupine was born on April 4, 1897 in Blagadornari, Caucasus. He was an officer in the Tsarist army and professional surveyor, in the late 1930s he emigrated to Belgium.

He enlisted in the Légion Wallonie in August 1941, as an *adjudant* interpreter, *Sonderführer (O)*²⁵⁷. After participating in the Caucasus campaign, he deserted in 1943, in order to join his mother and family. When Belgium was liberated, he fled to Spain and was interned at Miranda camp. On August 27, 1948 he emigrated to Buenos Aires.



Left to right : Vermeire, Degrelle, Foulon and Stoupine

²⁵⁷ This rank was specialist equivalent to Feldwebel/Oberfeldwebel.

Frédéric STRAGIER

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer



Ranks :

Caporal-chef / Obergefreiter

Sergent / Unteroffizier

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer : 01.06.1943

Frédéric Stragier²⁵⁸ was a member of the Formations de combat and served with the 1st company of the Légion Wallonie in 1941-1942, as an *Obergefreiter*. On March 10, 1942 he won the *Iron Cross IInd Class*. From January to March 1944 he commanded the second platoon of the 6th company at the SS-Sturmbrigade Wallonie.

²⁵⁸ Sometimes he is erroneously given the first name « Henri ».

Alex STROÏNOVSKY

SS-Frw. Sturmmann



Alex Stroïnovsky was born on September 13, 1924 in Lyon, to a white Russian father who emigrated to France, and a German mother from the Baltic countries. He joined NSKK in 1941 and became a motorcycle rider for a Flak company in Reims.

In September 1943 he was transferred to the Sturmbrigade Wallonie and was part of the third platoon of the 4th company. He was one of the seventeen men of the Zavadsky platoon (Russians) who refused to desert when the rest went over to the partisans at the end of January 1944.

He lived in exile in post-war Spain. Late in life he suffered with heart problems, he underwent surgery but fell into a coma shortly afterwards and on 1 September 1997, died at the Malaga hospital.

Jean THÉAGÈNE

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer



Jean Théagène²⁵⁹ was in 1907 in Tournai (Hainaut province). He enlisted in the Légion Wallonie in 1941 and was assigned to the 4th company. He served as a cook in 1942.

In August 1944 he was part of the staff platoon of the *Kampfgruppe Ruelle* in Estonia. In 1945, he became chief accountant of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69* « 'Serclaes de Tilly' ». He was wounded by shell fragments that fell on the regimental command post in March 1945.

Died on December 22, 1982.

Henri THEWISSEN

SS-Frw. StandartenJunker

Henri Thewissen was born on 24 April 1924 in Verviers (province of Liège). After completing a training course at the *SS-Panzergranadierschule* in Kienschlag from May 1 to September 9, 1944, he was promoted to *Standarten-Junker*. He was then assigned to the *SS-Grenadier-Ausbildungs- und Ersatz-Battalion 36*.

²⁵⁹ Named as « Louis » by Theo Verlaine.

Raymond THIRIONNET

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer



Ranks :

Adjutant / Feldwebel

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Served as platoon commander with the 3rd company of the Légion Wallonie in 1942. From 1943 he commanded the third platoon of the 9th company of the Sturmbrigade Wallonie. Around February 10 or 11, 1944 he deserted along with the *Spiess* of the headquarters company, Jean Spesde.

Convicted after the war. He died in 2013.

Franz THIRY

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Franz Thiry was born on 26 July 1919 in Marcinelle (Hainaut province). He enlisted on August 8, 1941 and became *SS-Kriegsberichter* (*Rundfunkberichter*, a radio broadcaster) in 1943. He covers the Cherkassy campaign and interviews Leon Degrelle when he returns from the fighting. After this he is responsible for Radio-Wallonie broadcasts until he was relieved of his post on 23 February 1945²⁶⁰. He then joined Division Wallonie before disappearing in the fighting at Wipperfürth.



Thiry, Matthys and Degrelle.

²⁶⁰ His deputy was Ernest Wascotte, who succeeds him as head of the radio. On 24 March 1945, the station was transferred to Holzemenis, but did not broadcast again because of the war.

Georges THONON

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker



Ranks :

Légionnaire / Soldat

SS-Frw. Sturmman

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer : December 1943

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker²⁶¹

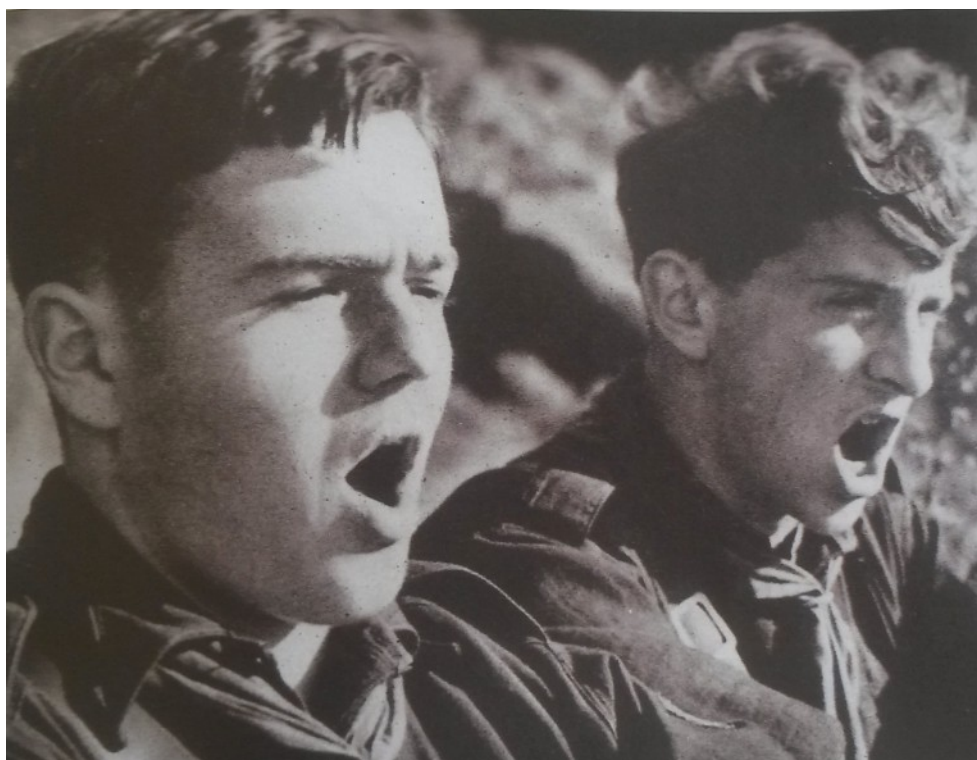
Georges Antoine Thonon was born on October 2, 1923 in Uccle. Initially he was a member of the Verdinaso (a small Belgian Fascist Party) but he enrolled in the Jeunesse Rexiste. On October 14, 1941 he was excluded from his college, because of his membership in Rex.

On March 10, 1942 he enlisted and was assigned to the 1st company, until he was evacuated on October 18, 1942 suffering from hepatitis. In August 1943 he attended the SS non-commissioned officer school in Posen-Treskau, with nearly fifty other Walloons. The course ended in December 1943 (only twenty completed it), and the young non-commissioned officers were sent to join the Sturmbrigade at the front.

He is a combat group leader in the Sturmbrigade's 3rd company and was awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class* for his part in the fighting in the Teklino forest. After undertaking an officer training course at the *SS-Panzer-Grenadier Schule* in Kienschlag, from 9 September 1944 to 31 March 1945 he joined the Division Wallonie as a platoon commander in the 6th company. On April 27, 1945 he was wounded in the thigh by a shrapnel and retreats 250 km before being taken prisoner in Schwerin by the Americans.

He spent the next four months in hospital and after this was interned until April 1946 in Neumünster. After serving two years of a five-year prison sentence he was released on 8 January 1947. He was one of the very last survivors of the Légion Wallonie, active in veteran circles until his death on November 6, 2017, in a private clinic in Namur.

²⁶¹ Source: correspondence between the author and Jean-Pierre Pirard, who knew Thonon very well.



Thonon (on the left) with Freddy Jacques.



Left to right : Prosper Hebbelincks, Jacques Leroy, Jean Moreau et Georges Thonon.



Left to right: Jean Moreau, Georges Thonon, Jean-Pierre Quoirin et Roland Devresse.



Thonon in his later years.

Raymond TILBURGHS

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Raymond Jean Tilburghs²⁶² was born on September 10, 1922 in Scharbeek, a suburb of Brussels. He was second in command to Léon Gillis in the anti-tank platoon (PAK) of the *Kampfgruppe Ruelle* in Estonia, with the rank of *Oberscharführer*. He serves in the Division Wallonie with the same rank and doesn't appear to have survived the war²⁶³.

Marcel De TOURTCHANINOFF

SS-Frw. Schütze



Marcel De Tourtchaninoff was on October 1, 1929 in Jupille (province of Liege), the son of Russian aristocrats who had taken refuge in Belgium after the Bolshevik revolution²⁶⁴. In 1942, he was sent to a Hitler Youth camp in Ulm and in 1943, he was enrolled in a German school in Liège. In the summer of 1944, the whole family moved to Germany, where they lived in Wölfenbutten.

In September 1944, his father met Léon Degrelle, who authorised the boy, then barely fifteen years old, to join the Division Wallonie²⁶⁵. He trained in Wohlauf, then Alfeld, and was assigned to

262 Sometimes called « Tilburgs » by mistake (by Eddy De Bruyne in « For Rex and for Belgium », page 130, and Jean Mabire in « Division Wallonie sur la Baltique »). His grand-niece, who has correspondence with the author confirms « Tilburghs ».

263 His younger sister, aged 84 in 2018, has not seen him since the war !

264 His father, Alexeff De Tourtchaninoff (born 28 June 1896) is a white Russian. He was arrested on May 10, 1940 as a Nazi sympathizer. After his release, he became an interpreter at the Sipo-SD in Liege. Moving to Germany in June 1944, he was the senior liaison officer between the Germans and the Vlasov army.

265 According to the father's wishes, Marcel's Soldbuch is in the name of « Von Tourtchaninoff ».

Ersatz Battalion 36, the division's battalion unit.²⁶⁶

In January 1945 he is assigned to the 1st Battalion of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 « 'Serclaes de Tilly »* and participates in the Stargard fighting until February 17, 1945. On March 4, the city was abandoned, and Marcel participated in rearguard fighting for several days. In the Pomelan forest, he destroys a T-34 with a Panzerfaust and is awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class* for this action on April 20, 1945.

De Tourtchaninoff fought with *Kampfgruppe Derriks* in April 1945. After being taken prisoner by the Soviets, he escaped with a group of French prisoners of war and manages to reach Jupille. He was recognised and imprisoned in Verviers, before spending five months in Saint-Léonard prison in Liège, in a cell containing eleven people. Given his very young age, he was sent to reform school, in a section of political internees, in Mol and was released after twenty months of captivity.

In 1948, he travelled to Nancy to join the Foreign Légion, under the name « Marcel Detour ». He trains in Algeria and is assigned to the 2nd B.E.P. The unit was sent to Indochina in early 1949 and he sees fighting in Cochin China, Annam and Tonkin. He carries out combat jumps on Na-San and Lang-Saun²⁶⁷ before leaving the Légion in December 1953 and returning to Belgium.

Unable to adapt to civilian life, he re-enlisted on March 5, 1954 and returns first to Algeria, then in Indochina until November 1955. As a *caporal*, he is a combat group commander in the 1st company of the 2nd R.E.P. On February 17, 1957 during an action in Djebel Bou Gaffer, he is seriously wounded in the foot, while rescuing his platoon leader, Lieutenant Menesson, who was fatally wounded.

After several years in Algeria and serving in various Légion units²⁶⁸, he retired from the military in November 1963 and headed to Marseille. He wrote his memories, « *Sueur et sang* », which were published in 1999²⁶⁹. He lived in peaceful retirement until his death in 2010.

266 On leave, he joins his family, who have settled in a castle in Dieban.

267 He was promoted to *caporal* but was demoted following a conflict with his superior.

268 Ordonnance, training company, equipment office of the 3rd Legion Transport Company, personnel office....

269 Published in a small run by Éditions des écrivains, this book is difficult to find.

Manuel VALADES

Waffen-Oberscharführer der SS

Ranks :

Soldado / Soldat

Sargento / Unteroffizier

Waffen-Oberscharführer der SS

Manuel Valades was born in 1920. He joined the Spanish Phalange in 1936 and was part of a small group of phalangists who took the island of Majorca for Franco on the morning of July 18, 1936.

He volunteered for service in the Azul Division in July 1941 and was assigned to the communications battalion, he was promoted to non-commissioned officer during his service, and awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class*²⁷⁰. During the winter of 1941-1942 he was wounded and during his convalescence, he was assigned to Berlin as a radio operator and translator because he spoke good German. He returned to Spain, probably in 1942 or 1943.

Valades asked to be demobilised from the Spanish army, and illegally crossed the French-Spanish border to re-join the German Army²⁷¹. He joined the Waffen-SS as a non-commissioned officer assigned to the Feldgendarmerie of the 28. SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division Wallonie²⁷².

In March 1945 he is seriously wounded in the leg in Pomerania and was evacuated to a military hospital. In the final days of the war he is repatriated to Spain where he was received as a hero and is declared an "adopted son" of his native village of Esporlas, on the island of Mallorca.

He joined the Guardia Civil²⁷³, where he spent his entire career until his retirement and died in the early 2000s.

Édouard Van Der STAPPEN

Adjutant-chef / Oberfeldwebel

Edouard Van Der Stappen was born in Brussels. Enlisted on August 8, 1941. Serves at the 2nd company of the Légion Wallonie in 1941-1942, and won the *Iron Cross IInd Class*, at Gromowaja-Balka, on March 10, 1942. Wounded in 1942, demobilized in 1943 and assigned to an office function in Belgium. Sentenced after-war.

270 He is also decorated with the *Ost Medal*, the *Wounded badge* and the *San Hermenegildo Cross in gold* (a Spanish medal).

271 It seems that several hundred Spaniards copied his action during the spring-summer of 1944.

272 Source: Jean-Pierre Sourd, who was a friend of Manuel Valades' son.

273 Keeping his eastern front decorations on his uniform, he acquired a certain prestige amongst his colleagues.

Jean-Alphonse Van HORREMBEKE

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Jean-Alphonse Van Horrembeke was born on February 2, 1915. A veteran of the Spanish Civil War, he fought for the Nationalists. He served with the 17th Bandera (67th Company), then in a tank unit of the Spanish Foreign Légion. He fought in the Bielsa pocket. After the civil war, he decided to stay in Spain, and became clerk for the Jeunesses Phalangistes in the city of Vizcaya.

He served for a time in the Azul Division. At the end of March 1944, he was given the task of contacting the Flemish SS, in order to gather possible Spanish volunteers to serve with them. He went to Paris, with his friend Juan Beltran De Guevara, to convince Spaniards to enter into a contract with Waffen-SS, particularly in the Langemarck division. He then went to Germany.

First directed to Lichertelde, to the depot of the 1st SS Division and the Sturmbrigade Langemarck, but his inability to speak German meant that he was sent to Debica on 7 July 1944 to join the depot unit of the Sturmbrigade Wallonie. While he was there, he met Paul Kehren, a comrade from the Spanish War.

At the end of July 1944, Van Horrembeke was part of the *Kampfgruppe Ruelle* which was about to leave for Estonia to fight. At this time, he met Degrelle and informed him of his mission to take care of the material needs of Spanish workers, and to encourage them to enrol in the SS.

In the autumn of 1944, Degrelle asked Van Horembeke to recruit Spanish workers residing within the Reich²⁷⁴. With Kheren, he visited factories and workers' camps and in Stockerau, in Austria, he found some Spaniards who had been incorporated into a Croatian unit against their wishes. He manages to persuade several dozens of them to leave and join the SS.

Van Horembeke fought with the mainly Spanish 3rd company of the *SS-Freiwilligen Grenadier Regiment 70 « Bucquoi »*, at Krüssow and then Stargard, in Pomerania. He continued his battle with the Spaniards in *Einstazgruppe Ezquerra*, which fought in Berlin²⁷⁵.

He was captured on May 2, 1945 in Berlin, he declared himself Belgian rather than Spanish (because one of his comrades was shot out of hand after revealing himself as Spanish)²⁷⁶. He passed through various prison camps, ending up in Kovno. After the visit of an allied commission, he was sent back to Belgium.

Tried in the Brussels Military Court, he was sentenced to 20 years in prison, but was freed in the early 1950s, Van Horembeke went into exile in Spain and obtained Spanish nationality. He was still living there in the 1980s.

274 He recruits at least 36 men.

275 The unit was composed of about 150 Spaniards (including 60 survivors of the Pomeranian fighting with the Division Wallonie), under the command of the *Hauptsturmführer* Miguel Ezquerra Sanchez.

276 Captured in front of a subway entrance, with several comrades. They had answered the call of Ocanas, who was calling his comrades for help, under the threat of a Russian pistol on his temple ! Van Horembeke, until his death, was a little resentful against Ocanas.

Émile Van ISSCHOT

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer



Émile Van Isschot²⁷⁷ was born on February 6, 1907 in Charleroi (Hainaut province). He commanded the fourth platoon of the 1st company of the Sturmbrigade Wallonie and in 1945, he fought in Pomerania (his role is not known).

Raymond Van LEEUW

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker



Raymond Van Leeuw was born on August 3, 1925 in Etterbeek, near Brussels. He enlisted on March 10, 1942 and participated in the Caucasus campaign²⁷⁸, where he is wounded. He also fights at Cherkassy, where he is wounded again. In Division Wallonie he is assigned to the signals platoon of

²⁷⁷ His name is sometimes written as « Van Isschott » (but this seems less likely). His first name is given by Théo Verlaine (in correspondence with the author).

²⁷⁸ According to Georges Thonon, he kills his section leader in an accident while he is cleaning his weapon.

the headquarters company of in charge of telephony. He is then in command of an infantry section in the 1st company of the *Kampfgruppe Derriks*.

After the war he lived in exile in Spain serving as Léon Degrelle's private secretary. He died on May 5, 1998 in Malaga.



Maurice Van LIERDE

Sergent / Unteroffizier

Maurice Van Lierde was born on 28 May 1914 in Jette, near Brussels. He enlisted on August 8, 1941 and was assigned to the 4th company. On May 17, 1942 he was wounded five times and was awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class* shortly afterwards. He was killed on August 16, 1942.

Raoul VERHIEST

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer



Ranks :

Adjudant / Feldwebel

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

Raoul Verhiest²⁷⁹ was born on 28 March 1910. On August 8, 1941 he enlisted the Légion Wallonie serving as an *adjudant* in the supply section. In September 1942 he was demobilised and on September 15, 1942 he was decorated with the *War Merit Cross with Swords*. He was then assigned to the Légion Wallonie depot in Namur (in the supply section, 4th company).

At the Namur depot he was deputy to Albert Lassois, from June to August 1944. He participated in the attack on the Maquis de Ciney (in charge of supply).

He died on 24 October 1980.

²⁷⁹ Not to be confused with his namesake, who was a RAD officer.

Rémi VERNIERS

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer



Ranks :

Légionnaire / Grenadier

Sergent / Unteroffizier²⁸⁰

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer : 01.06.1943

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Rémi Verniers²⁸¹ joined the Légion Wallonie in August 1941, assigned to the 1st company, he is decorated with the *Infantry Assault Badge* on September 10, 1942.

In September 1943 he attends a training course in Bad Tölz, but this did not work out for him, and he returns to the Sturmbrigade, where he was appointed chief of the third Platoon of the 1st company as an *Unterscharführer*.

In April 1945, he commanded a platoon of the 6th company of *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69* and was wounded on April 27, 1945.

After the war he was imprisoned but he managed to escape while he was in a working. He travels to Spain. He returns to Belgium ten years later, where he serves a few days in prison before being released.

²⁸⁰ He holds this rank in March 1943.

²⁸¹ Sometimes written « Rémy Vernier ». But in the « Tableau des légionnaires décorés » (March 1943) confirms « Rémi Verniers ».



Vernier standing on the left



Vernier (left) shaking hands with Paul Meeuwissen.

Georges VILLERS

Wallonischer Kreisleiter (arrondissement d'Hameln)

Caporal / Gefreiter

Chef de Cercle (Rex-Namur)

Georges Villers was born on February 18, 1897 in Hemixem (Antwerp province). He was briefly *Chef de Cercle Rex-Namur* before joining the Légion Wallonie on August 8, 1941²⁸². He served in the 1st company before being demobilised in December 1941. He is decorated with the *War Merit Cross* on November 15, 1942. After his demobilisation, he was provincial inspector of the Namur territorial executives.

He resumed his position as head of the Rex in Namur in February 1944, as his replacement Gignot had been assassinated, but he resigned from Rex on June 9, 1944 after financial issues.

He fled to Germany and became Walloon *Kreisleiter* for the Hameln district.

Charles VRYMAN

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Promotions :

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer²⁸³

Charles Vryman²⁸⁴ was born on August 3, 1920 in Liege. In August 1941 he enlisted in the Légion Wallonie and became an SS-PK in September 1943. He participates in the Cherkassy campaign.

He becomes Editor-in-Chief of the « L'Assaut » and he wrote an article in the first issue of the « Annales de la Légion Wallonie » in 1944. He was also the political editor and director of the « Le Combattant Européen », which became the « Le Combattant SS » in September 1943, a position he held until 4 May 1944.

He continued his activities as SS-PK, covering the Normandy campaign in June 1944²⁸⁵. Continues his activities until the end of the war²⁸⁶. Died in 1956.

282 His son Jean joined the Légion on March 10, 1942.

283 Eddy De Bruyne confirms this rank.

284 Théo Verlaine writes his name as « Vrymans », which seems wrong. « Les Annales de la Légion Wallonie » confirms Vryman.

285 With the French SS man Gérald De Baecker.

286 In 1945 he launched a new newspaper « Et alors ? » (only one issue was published).

Léo WERELDS

SS-Frw. Standarten-Junker

Leo Werelds²⁸⁷ was born on July 25, 1924. He enlisted in the Légion Wallonie in August 1941.

In February-March 1945, he attended an officer training course at Bad Tolz. On 28 March 1945, he was assigned to the *SS-Grenadier Ausbildungs und Ersatz Bataillon 36* and was then selected for further training at the *SS-Panzergranadier Schule* in Kienschlag (the 18th *Kriegs Lehr Gang*), which would run from 16 April to 30 June 1945. With the war's end, it never took place.

Condemned after the war, he worked in « La Légion Bleue » (a mutual aid network for members of the Walloon SS).

Raymond WITTAMER

Légionnaire / Soldat

Wittamer enlisted in the contingent of March 10, 1942 and was assigned to the 3rd company. On September 2, 1942 he was awarded the *Iron Cross IInd Class*.

Charles WOUTERS

Adjudant-chef / Oberfeldwebel

Charles Wouters was born in 1890 in Schoten. He enlisted August 8, 1941 and was assigned to the headquarters company. On September 15, 1942 he was decorated with the *War Merit Cross IInd Class*. In early 1943 he is demobilised and assigned to the "l'Honneur Légionnaire".

He flees to Germany in September 1944 and was condemned after the war.

²⁸⁷ Théo Verlaine named him « Léon » and gave his date of birth as 1923. « Le tableau des légionnaires décorés » confirms « Charles ».

APPENDICES

Légion Wallonie / *Wallonische-Infanterie Bataillon 373*

(August 1941 to May 1943)

Commander :

Capitaine-Commandant Georges JACOBS (August 1941 - January 1942)

Capitaine Pierre PAULY (January - March 1942)

Capitaine Georges TCHEKHOFF (April - May 1942)

Lieutenant then Capitaine Lucien LIPPERT (June - November 1942)

Adjutant-major (Deputy commander) :

Sous-lieutenant Fernand ROULEAU (August – September 1941)

Lieutenant Lucien LIPPERT (September 1941 – May 1942)

Sous-lieutenant Albert LASSOIS (June - August 1942)

Orderly officer :

Sous-lieutenant Léopold THYS

Lieutenant Adolphe RENIER

Sous-lieutenant Léon DEGRELLE (1942)

Sergent Roger WASTIAU (June - October 1942)

Medical services :

Lieutenant Dr. Pierre JACQUEMIN (1941-1942)

Sous-lieutenant (Sonderführer Z) Dr. Sylvère MIESSE (August 1941 - March 1942)

Sous-lieutenant (Sonderführer Z) Dr. Alfred ALBERT (January 1942 - May 1943)

Aspirant Dr. Georges LAMBRICHT (1942)

-Pharmacy : Capitaine Victor BOULLIENNE (August 1941 - January 1942) ; Adjudant-chef Dr. Camille PETRE (1942)

Uniforms, clothing, rations & Finances :

Sous-lieutenant (Sonderführer Z) Robert Du WELZ

Military chaplaincy :

Heeres Pfarrer Joseph SALES

Signals group :

Adjudant Jules d'HAYER

Stalls :

Capitaine Joseph DAENEN (September 1941 to January 1942)

Engineers platoon :

Adjudant Joseph MIRGAIN (March to September 1942)

Antitank platoon (created in June 1942) :

Adjudant-chef Pierre DENGIS

Liaison officer with the 97th Jägerdivision :

Sous-lieutenant Jean VERMEIRE

Disciplinary platoon :

Adjudant then adjudant-chef Yves CHENOT (... 1941 to April 1942)

German liaison staff :

Leutnant LEPPIN*²⁸⁸ (1941)

Hauptmann Dr. Erich Von LEHE* (January to March 1942)

Rittmeister von RABENAU* (June to November 1942)

Leutnant SCHLUCK*

Sonderführer (Z) WINTERSCHIEDT*

1st company :

Capitaine-Commandant Albert VAN DAMME (August 1941 – January 1942)

Lieutenant Alfred LISEIN (January – March 1942)

Adjudant-chef then Sous-lieutenant Jules MATHIEU (April – August 1942)

Sous-lieutenant Albert LASSOIS (August – September 1942)

Sous-lieutenant Joseph DUMONT (September 1942 - ... 1943)

Platoons chiefs : Sous-lieutenant Jean VERMEIRE ; Adjudant-chef Jules MATHIEU ; Adjudant-chef Albert LASSOIS ; Adjudant-chef Léon CLOSSET (... 1942 – June 1942) ; Adjudant François DARAS ; Sous-lieutenant Henri THYSSEN ; Sous-lieutenant Joseph DUMONT (... - September 1942) ; Adjudant Albert VERPOORTEN

2nd company :

Capitaine Willy HEYVAERT (August 1941 – January 1942)

Lieutenant Arthur BUYDTS (11.01.1942 – February 1942)

Sous-lieutenant Joseph DAULNE (February 1942)

Sous-lieutenant Jean VERMEIRE (June - ... 1942)

Sous-lieutenant Léon CLOSSET

Platoons chiefs : Sous-lieutenant Paul DAULIE ; Soldat then Adjudant-chef Marcel NICOLAS (second platoon ; ... - February 1942) ; Adjudant Camille BRASSEUR ; Adjudant Adrien GODSDEEL ; Sous-lieutenant Henri THYSSEN ; Adjudant François DARAS ; Adjudant Alfred FALCQUE

3rd company :

Capitaine Georges TCHEKHOFF (August 1941 - 24.02.1942)

Lieutenant Arthur BUYDTS (?? .02.1942 – 28.02.1942)

Adjudant-chef then Sous-lieutenant Georges RUELLE (April - November 1942)

Platoons chiefs : Lieutenant Arthur BUYDTS (November 1941 – January 1942) ; Lieutenant Adolphe RENIER ; Adjudant-chef Georges RUELLE ; Sergent Carlos DOHET ; Adjudant-chef Raymond THIRIONNET ; Adjudant Robert DENIE ; Adjudant Paul MEZETTA ; Adjudant Albert VERPOORTEN ; Sergent Charles GENERET

4th company :

Capitaine René DUPRÉ (August 1941 - 01.12.1941)

Lieutenant Robert SLOET d'OLDRUYTENBORGH (04.12.1941 - 11.01.1942)

Lieutenant Arthur BUYDTS (11.01.1942 - 28.02.1942)

Sous-lieutenant Camille BOSQUION (April – November 1942)

Chefs de pelotons : Lieutenant Robert SLOET d'OLDRUYTENBORGH ; Lieutenant Alfred LISEIN ; Adjudant-chef Camille BOSQUION ; Adjudant Marcel VERVLOET ; Adjudant-chef Pierre DENGIS ; Sergent-chef MATTON ; Sergent Marcel BONNIVER ; Adjudant RORIVE ; Adjudant Josy GRAFF

288 The « * » means that he is a German officer.

SS-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »

(June 1943 to March 1944)

Commander : SS-Frw. Stubaf. Lucien LIPPERT (June 1943 - 13.02.1944)

SS-Frw. Hstuf. Léon DEGRELLE (13.02.1944 – March 1944)

Orderly officer : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Nicolas KAMSKY

SS-Frw. Ostuf. Léon DEGRELLE (November 1943 – 13.02.1944)

Office I/A (Operations) : SS-Frw. Oscha. Roger WASTIAU (June 1943 - 01.09.1943, then sent to Bad Tölz)

SS-Frw. Ustuf. Albert LASSOIS (September – November)

SS-Frw. Hstuf. Gommaire ANTHONISSEN (December 1943 - 10.02.1944)

Office I/B (Weapons, equipment, quarters) : ?

Office I/C (intelligence) : SS-Ustuf. Dr. Heinz FORSTENEICHNER*

Office III (Military justice) : SS-Hstuf. Hartmut FLEICHSIG*

SS-Frw. Ustuf. Adrien GODSDEEL

SS-Frw. Oscha. Louis BASTIN (January - September 1944)

Office IV/A (Uniforms, clothing, rations) : SS-Ustuf. Rudolf SCHLUCK*

SS-Ostuf. Friedhelm JEHN*

Office IV/B (medical) : SS-Hstuf. Dr. SCHULTZ*

SS-Ustuf. Dr. Robert STAHL*

SS-Frw. Std. ObJu. Dr. Paul ROEKENS

SS-Frw. Hscha. Roger LEJEUNE (dentist)

SS-Frw. Hscha. then Ustuf. Camille PETRE (pharmacist)

Office IV/D (military chaplaincy) : Heeres Pfarrer Louis FIERENS

Office V (Vehicle) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Stéphane DEVREESE

Office VI (Political training and activities) : SS-Hstuf. Gustav REINFAHRT*

Germans liaison officers : SS-Ostuf. Albert WEGENER*

SS-Ustuf. Erich WINTERSCHEIDT*

SS-Ostuf. Hans-Karl DREXEL*

Staff company : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Robert SLOET d'OLDRUYTENBORGH (June 1943 - 01.10.1943)

SS-Frw. Hstuf. Gommaire ANTHONISSEN (October 1943 – 10.02.1944)

Spiess : SS-Frw. Oscha. Jean SPEDE

-Rider platoon : SS-Frw. Hscha. Maurice DERAUVET

SS-Frw. Ostuf. Adolphe RENIER (01.10.1943 - ?)

-Signals platoon : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Adolphe RENIER (... - 01.10.1943)

SS-Frw. Hscha. Jean-Marie LANTIEZ (October 1943 - ?)

-Engineers platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Joseph MIRGAIN

Deputy : SS-Frw. Uscha. Boris TOULOUBIEFF

-Music : SS-Frw. Hscha. Léon DELTENRE

-Weapons : SS-Frw. Uscha. Léon De MEERSMAN

1st company (grenadiers) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jules MATHIEU

1st platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Hubert VAN EYSER (killed on 13.12.1943) ; SS-Frw. Oscha. Léon FOUCART (13.12.1943 - ... 1944)

2nd platoon : SS-Frw. Hscha. François d'AOUST

3rd platoon : SS-Frw. Uscha. Rémi VERNIERS

4th platoon (heavy - 4 machine guns and 2 mortars of 80mm) : SS-Frw. Oscha. Émile VAN ISSCHOT

2nd company (grenadiers) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Henri DERRIKS

1st platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Albert WEHINGER

2nd platoon : SS-Frw. Oscha. Armand GUELTON (... - 11.02.1944) ; SS-Frw. Uscha. Virgile VANDERWALLE (11.02.1944 - ...)

3rd platoon : SS-Frw. Uscha. Égide MULLER (... - November 1943) ; SS-Frw. Hscha. Albert SAPIN (November 1943 – ... 1944)

4th platoon (heavy - 4 machine guns and 2 mortars of 80mm) : SS-Frw. Uscha. André RÉGIBEAU (... - 04.01.1944) ; SS-Frw. Uscha. René LADRIÈRE (04.01.1944 - ...)

3rd company (grenadiers) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Robert DENIE / SS-Frw. Ostuf. Léon DEGRELLE (honorary commander)

Spiess : SS-Frw. Oscha. Emile MÜLLER

1st platoon : SS-Frw. Oscha. Georges PHILIPS (... 1943 – January 1944) ; SS-Frw. Uscha. Léon HELLIN (January 1944 - ...)

2nd platoon : SS-Frw. Oscha. Léon MICHAUX (... - 14.01.1944) ; SS-Frw. Oscha. Égide MULLER (14.01.1944 - ...)

3rd platoon : SS-Frw. Oscha. Henri DECLERCQ (wounded in December 1943) ; SS-Frw. Uscha. Daniel PIROT (December 1943 - ...)

4th peloton (heavy - 4 machine guns and 2 mortars of 80mm) : SS-Frw. Oscha. Gérard QUOIDBACH

4th company (heavy - machine guns and mortars) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Marcel BONNIVER

1st platoon (4 machine guns sMG. 42) : SS-Frw. Oscha. Maurice LEMPEREUR

2nd platoon (4 machine guns sMG. 42) : SS-Frw. Oscha. Georges BLAVIER

3rd platoon (6 mortars of 80mm mGrW. 34) : SS-Fachführer Rostislav ZAVADSKY

5th company (anti-tank) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Marcel LAMPROYE

1st platoon (3 anti-tankguns of 75mm Pak 40) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. François DARAS

2nd platoon (3 anti-tankguns of 75mm Pak 40) : SS-Frw. Hscha. Léon GILLIS

3rd platoon (3 anti-tankguns of 75mm Pak 40) : SS-Frw. Oscha. Alfred FALCQUE

6th company (light anti-aircraft pieces) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Louis CALONNE

1st platoon (4 pieces of 20mm Flak 38) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Henri THYSSEN

2nd platoon (4 pieces of 20mm Flak 38) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Roger HANICQ (June – September 1943) ; SS-Frw. Oscha. Louis BASTIN (September 1943 – January 1944) ; SS-Frw. Uscha. Frédéric STRAGIER (January 1944 - ...)

3rd platoon (4 pieces of 20mm Flak 38) : SS-Frw. Uscha. Henri DEBRUXELLES

7th company (heavy antiaircraft pieces) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Joseph DUMONT

Battery (4 pieces of 88mm Flak 36) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Fernand FOULON

SS-Frw. Uscha. Guy WARNIER (... - September 1943)

SS-Frw. Oscha. Louis BASTIN (... - September 1943)

SS-Frw. Hscha. Gustave PAQUOT (... - September 1943)

Light platoon (3 pieces of 20mm Flak 38) : SS-Frw. Uscha. Joseph MIGNON

8th company (infantry guns) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Josy GRAFF

1st platoon (4 pieces of 75 & 2 pieces of 150) : SS-Frw. Oscha. Georges DUPIRE

2nd platoon (4 pieces of 75 & 2 pieces of 150) : SS-Frw. Uscha. Mathieu-Charles GRISAY

3rd platoon (4 pieces of 75 & 2 pieces of 150) : ?

9th company (assault gun) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Pierre DENGIS

Spiess : SS-Frw. Oscha. Carlos DOHET

1st platoon (theoretically 10 guns) : SS-Frw. Hscha. Victor SMETS

2nd platoon (theoretically 10 guns) : SS-Frw. Hscha. Albert MOLHAN

3rd platoon (theoretically 10 guns) : SS-Frw. Hscha. Raymond THIRIONNET

10th company (Train) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Georges RUELLE

Composition of companies :

-Companies 1 to 3 consist of the following equipment : three platoons of riflemen with three combat groups armed with two machine guns each, a heavy platoon with four heavy machine guns on a lookout and four mortars of 80

-The 4th company : two platoons of four machine guns each, eight pieces on a lookout and a platoon of six mortars of 80.

-The 5th company : nine pieces of PAK 75.

-The 6th company : twelve heavy machine guns of FLAK 20.

-The 7th company (also named 7th battery) : four pieces of FLAK 88.

-The 8th company (also named 8th battery) : four howitzers of 105 and two howitzers of 150.

-The 9th company (also named 9th battery) : ten guns of 75 self-propelled crawlers

-The 10th company (also named 10th train column) : about fifty trucks

5.SS-Freiwilligen-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »

(March to September 1944)

Kampfgruppe « Ruelle » (August - September 1944)

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Georges RUELLE (wounded on 23.08.1944) ; SS-Frw. Hstuf. Jules MATHIEU (23.08.1944 – September 1944)

Deputy : SS-Frw. Hstuf. Jules MATHIEU

Orderly officer : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Robert Du WELZ

Adjutant-Major : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jules SANDRON

German liaison officers : **SS-Ostuf. Karl SCHÄFER*** & **SS-Ustuf. Josef SCHEBELA***

Interpreter : **SS-Frw. Ustuf. Georg von SCHAFROFF**

Kriegsbericht : SS-Frw. Ustuf. François CHOME

Staff platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jacques WAUTELET (until 06.09.1944) ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jean THEATRE (from 06.09.1944 to ... ?), then SS-Frw. Oscha. Jean THEAGENE

Chief of the signals : SS-Frw. Uscha. Lambert KAISON

Anti-tank platoon (PAK) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Léon GILLIS (wounded on 22.08.1944)

Deputy : SS-Frw. Oscha. Raymond TILBURGHIS

1st compagnie (feldersatz -reserve company-) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jacques CAPPELLE

Platoons chiefs : SS-Frw. Hscha. Paul CHENUT ; SS-Frw. Hscha. Georges LAMBORAY ; SS-Frw. Hscha. Victor DOHLEN

2nd company (einsatzkompanie -grenadiers-) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Marc WILLEM (Killed on 19.08.1944 at Patska) ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Marcel THOMAS (19.08.1944 – September 1944)

Deputy : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Marcel THOMAS (... - 19.08.1944)

Platoons chiefs : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Marcel CAPOEN (Killed on 19.08.1944 at Patska) ; SS-Frw. Oscha. Émile CABARET ; SS-Frw. Oscha. Léon FOUCART ; SS-Frw. Oscha. Henri PHILIPPET

4th company (heavy weapons):

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Marcel BONNIVER

-Staff group : SS-Frw. Hscha. Nicolas GUYOT

-Mortars platoon : SS-Frw. Oscha. Pierre LIEBART

Platoons chiefs (heavy machines guns) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jacques VERENNE (Killed on 14.08.1944 at Liiva) ; SS-Frw. Hscha. Maurice LEMPEREUR ; SS-Frw. Oscha. Robert DESCHRIJVER

28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien » **(wallonische Nr. 1)**

Staff :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostubaf. Léon DEGRELLE

Orderly officers : **SS-Hstuf. Karl SCHÄFER*** ; **SS-Frw. Ustuf. Antoine GOMBEIR** ; **SS-Frw. Ustuf. Eduard BUNTINX (January 1945 - ... 1945)** ; **SS-Frw. Ustuf. Raymond CAMBY**

Staff chief and Office I/A (operations and transports) : **SS-Frw. Stubaf. Franz HELLEBAUT**

1st orderly officer : **SS-Frw. Ustuf. Albert NORTIER**

Secretary : **SS-Frw. Ustuf. Guy BARTHELEMY**

Interpreter : **SS-Ustuf. Franz FORSTER***

Office I/B (weapons, equipment, quarters) : **SS-Ostuf. Karl HERMANN***

2nd orderly officer : **SS-Frw. Ustuf. Willy GRAIDE**

Weapons, equipment, quarters: **SS-Ostuf. THIEMANN***

Office I/C (intelligence) : **SS-Frw. Ustuf. André VINCKENBOSCH** (Disappear on 09.02.1945 at Mûscherin)

Office II : (personnel -*Adjutantur*-) : **SS-Frw. Stubaf. Georges JACOBS**

Deputy : **SS-Frw. Ustuf. Raymond BERNARD**

Office III (military justice) : **SS-Hstuf. Hartmut FLECHSIG***

SS-Ustuf. Hans ZINSER*

SS-Frw. Ostuf. Adrien GODSDEEL (September – October 1944)

SS-Frw. Oscha. Joseph DANGUY (December 1944 – February 1945)

SS-Frw. Hscha. Louis BASTIN (October 1944 – April 1945)

Office IV/A (uniforms, clothing, rations & finances) : **SS-Hstuf. Friedhelm JEHN***

Office IV/B (medical) : **SS-Stubaf. Dr. Karl BECKER***

Office IV/C (veterinary) : **SS-Hstuf. Dr. Günter BEDERKE***

Office IV/D (military chaplaincy) : **SS-Frw. Stubaf. Léon STOCKMAN**

Office V (vehicule) : **SS-Frw. Ustuf. Stéphane DEVREESE**

Deputy : **SS-Hscha. STOUTZ***

Office VI (political instruction & activities) : **SS-Ostuf. Dr. Heinz OETZMANN***

SS-Frw. Ustuf. Valère-Jahn ROEMAET

SS-Hscha. WENZEL*

SS-Frw. Oscha. LAURENT

Commander of the General Quarter in Berlin : **SS-Frw. Hstuf. Jean VERMEIRE**

Feldgendarmarie : **SS-Ostuf. Otto BACHINGER***

Deputy : **SS-Frw. Hscha. Pascal BOVY**

Music : **SS-Frw. Hscha. Léon DELTENRE**

Divisionnal units

Train (auto) company : **SS-Frw. Ustuf. Louis JACOBS**

Equipment company : **SS-Ustuf. Heinz RINGELHAN***

SS-Frw. Ustuf. Hermann LICHT

Workshop platoon : not designated

Exploitation stewardship company : **SS-Ustuf. Werner PLAUMANN***

Medical company : **SS-Ostuf. Dr. Robert STAHL***

Dentists : **SS-Ustuf. Dr. FRIEDERICH***

SS-Frw. Ustuf. Dr. Roger LEJEUNE

Pharmacists : **SS-Frw. Ustuf. Camille PETRE**

SS-Frw. Ustuf. Raoul QUOIDBACH

Veterinary company : SS-Hstuf. Dr. Werner QUAST*

Political services

Liaison officer with the *SS-Hauptamt* : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jean ROMAN

Press : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Robert Du WELZ

Propaganda (SS-PK) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. François CHOMÉ
SS-Frw. Ustuf. Albert VERPOORTEN

Others : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Félix FRANCO

SS-Frw. Ostuf. Paul SUYS

SS-Ostuf. Heinz FORSTENEICHNER*

SS-Ostuf. Rudolf SCHLUCK*

SS-Frw. Ostuf. Léon CLOSSET

SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 «'t Serclaes de Tilly » - (wallonische Nr. 1)

Commander : SS-Frw. Hstuf. Jules MATHIEU

Deputy (*Adjutant-major*) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jules SANDRON

Orderly officer : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Fritz GRUBBE

Office I/B (weapons, equipment, quarters) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Henri GILLEMONT

Office III (military justice) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Joseph PEVENASSE

Office IV/A (uniforms, clothing, rations & finances) : SS-Ustuf. Josef SCHEBELA*

Office V (vehicule) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jacques DUCATE

Treasurer : SS-Frw. Oscha. Jean THÉAGÈNE

Staff company :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jean GALERE

Signals platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Léon CREMERS
SS-Ustuf. NIKOLAUS* (instructor)

Ist BATTALION

Commander : SS-Frw. Hstuf. Henri DERRIKS (until 06.03.1945) ; SS-Frw. Hstuf. Marcel BONNIVER (from 06.03.1945)

Deputy (*Adjutant-major*) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Roger De GOY

Orderly officers : SS-Frw. Oscha. (then SS-Frw. Ustuf.) Jacques LEROY

SS-Frw. Hscha. Paul MEZETTA (Killed on 04.03.1945 at Streesen)

SS-Frw. Ustuf. Robert AMBROES

Office IV/A (uniforms, clothing, rations & finances) : SS-Ustuf. Walter ZAPLETAL*

Medical officer : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Raymond BUY

1st company (grenadiers) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. André REGIBEAU

Platoons chiefs : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Daniel WOUTERS ; SS-Frw. Std.Ju. Ernest FRAIKIN (... - 04.03.1945) ; SS-Frw. Std.Ju. Pierre HANCISSE ; SS-Frw. Oscha. Maxime HAVET

2nd company (grenadiers) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Mathieu De COSTER

Platoon chiefs : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jean PIRON ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Maurice DERAUVET ; SS-Frw. Oscha.

Yvan LOUPART ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Virgile VANDERWALLE (October 1944 - 17.02.1945)

3rd compagnie (grenadiers) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Edouard SERLET

Spiess : SS-Frw. Oscha. Paul KEHREN (?)

Platoon chiefs : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Henri NIZET (Killed on 01.03.1945 at Krüssow) ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jean HALBARDIER

4th compagnie (heavy weapons) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Hstuf. Marcel BONNIVER

Platoon chiefs : SS-Frw. Ustuf. René SERLET (Killed on 18.03.1945 at Altdamm) ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Louis BERVAES

IInd BATTALION

Commander : SS-Frw. Hstuf. Léon LAKAIE

Deputy (*Adjutant-Major*) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jean THEATRE

Orderly officers : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jean LIENART

SS-Frw. Ustuf. José GORTZ

Office IV/A (uniforms, clothing, rations) : **SS-Ustuf. WANKA***

Medical officer : SS-Frw. Std.Ob.Ju. Dr. Paul ROEKENS

Signals platoon : **SS-Ostuf. RUSINGER***

5th company (grenadiers) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Henri RUE (Killed on 12.02.1945 at Krüssow) ; SS-Frw. Philippe della FAILLE d'HUYSE (12.02.1945 - ...)

Platoon chiefs : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Philippe Della FAILLE d'HUYSE (... 1944 – 12.02.1945) ; SS-Frw. Robert JOURDAIN (second platoon ; October - November 1944) ; SS-Frw. Hscha. François d'AOUST

6th compagnie (grenadiers) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Raphaël ROORYCK

Platoon chiefs : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Robert MEAN ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Joseph CREUVEN ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Fernand DARGENT (... 1944 – January 1945)

7th company (grenadiers) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Jacques CAPPELLE (... 1944 – 17.02.1945) ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Virgile VANDERWALLE

Platoon chiefs : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jacques POELS (... 1944 – Killed on 17.02.1945) ; SS-Frw. Hscha. Jean-Baptiste BARBIER ; SS-Frw. Oscha. Léon FOUCART

8th company (heavy weapons) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Charles MONFILS

Platoon chiefs : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Stéphane BACHA ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Robert JOURDAIN (December 1944 – February 1945) ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Henri-Marie LOVINFOSSE

Support compagnies

9th company (infantry gun) -not complete, training- :

Commander : SS-Frw. Oscha. then SS-Frw. Ustuf. Ustuf. Georges DUPIRE (Killed end January 1945 at Breslau-Lissa)

Spiess : SS-Frw. Oscha. Carlos DOHET

10th company (anti-tank) -unformed-

SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 70 « Bucquoi »
(wallonische Nr. 2)

Commander : SS-Frw. Stubaf. Georges TCHEKHOFF ; SS-Frw. Ostuf. Robert DENIE (acting commander, 1945)

Orderly officer : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Georg von SCHAFFROFF

Ist BATTALION

Commander : SS-Frw. Hstuf. Georges RUELLE ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Albert STEIVER (acting commander, March 1945)

Deputy (*Adjutant-major*) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Georges De BONGNIE (27.01.1945 – 15.03.1945)

Orderly officer : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Robert DENIE

Office IV/A (uniforms, clothing, rations & finances) : SS-Ostuf. Josef LOCHMANN*

Medical officers : SS-Ostuf. Dr. Gottfried METZGER*

SS-Ostuf. Dr. Alfred GRIESMANN*

W-Ustuf. Dr. Ignacio BAANANTE

Adjoint : SS-Frw. Uscha. Pierre SACHNOSKY (October - December 1944)

Signals platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jacques De HEUG

Chief of the estafettes : SS-Frw. Hscha. Emile MÜLLER

1st company (grenadiers) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Désiré LECOCQ (... 1944 – 06.03.1945) ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Albert STEIVER (06.03.1945 - ...)

Spiess : SS-Frw. Oscha. Émile FARINE²⁸⁹

Platoon chiefs : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Paul VAN GYSEGHEM ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Raphaël FOULON ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Francis CAUDRON ; SS-Frw. Oscha. then SS-Frw. Ustuf. Pierre De La HAMAYDE (third platoon ; February 1945 - 01.03.1945)

2nd company (grenadiers) -unformed-

3th company (grenadiers) :

Commander : W-Ostuf. Luis GARCIA VALDAJOS (honorary, assigned to Berlin) ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Rudolphe BAL (... - Killed on 06.03.1945 at Lübow) ; W-Std.Ob.Ju. Ricardo BOTET (06.03.1945 - ...)

Platoon chiefs : W-StdObJu. Ricardo BOTET (first platoon) ; W-Hscha. LAFUENTE ; W-Oscha. Lorenzo OCANAS ; W-Hscha. Abel ARDOZ

4th company (heavy weapons) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Charles SCHUMACHER

Platoon chiefs : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Georges VAN EESBEECK ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Abel DELANNOY ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Georges SUAIN

289 Not certain.

IIInd BATTALION -unformed-

SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 71 (wallonische Nr. 3) *-unformed-*

SS-Pionier-Bataillon 28²⁹⁰

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Joseph MIRGAIN
Deputy (*Adjutant-major*) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Albert SAPIN

1st & 2nd companies :

Platoon chiefs : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Pierre MIGNON ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Léon COLLARD ; **SS-Frw. Hscha. Boris TOULOUBIEFF**

SS-Nachrichten-Abteilung 28²⁹¹

Compagnie radio-telegraphic :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Roger WASTIAU
Platoon chiefs : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jean-Marie LANTIEZ ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. André WINANDY ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Victor SMETS ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Noël VACHAUDEZ ; SS-Frw. Std.ObJu. Marcel d'HONDT

SS-Artillerie-Abteilung 28²⁹²

Commander : SS-Frw. Hstuf. Jean MALHERBE
Deputy (*Adjutant-major*) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Gérard SOENEN
Orderly officer : **SS-Ustuf. Erich WINTERSCHEIDT***
SS-Frw. Ustuf. Alfred DEVAUX
Reserve of command : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Josy GRAFF

Observation battery :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Guy WARNIER

1st battery :

Commander : SS-Frw. Hstuf. Joseph DUMONT
SS-Frw. Ustuf. Raymond DESTATTE (... 1945 - ... 1945)

2nd battery :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Fernand FOULON

3rd battery :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Mathieu-Charles GRISAY
SS-Frw. Ustuf. Christian De BACKER De RÉVILLE (January - April 1945)

290 Two companies, in training.

291 Only one company.

292 Four battery, in training, 12 officers and some 400 soldiers.

4th battery :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Alfred DUMONT

SS-Frw. Ostuf. Victor BOURDOUXHE (... 1945 - ... 1945)

SS-Panzerjäger-Abteilung 28

Anti-tank company (PAK) : (9 pieces of 75mm Pak 40)

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Marcel LAMPROYE (September – October 1944) ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Léon GILLIS (October 1944 – March 1945)

Platoon chiefs : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jules MAHIEU ; SS-Frw. Ostuf. Gustave PAQUOT ; SS-Frw. Hscha. Fidèle HENDRICKS

Anti-aircraft company (FLAK) : (12 pieces of 20mm Flak 38) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Henri THYSSEN (... - Killed on 20.04.1945 at Schillersdorf)

Platoon chiefs : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Roger GONDROY ; SS-Frw. Jean STIEBERT

Assault gun company -unformed-

Kampfgruppe « Derriks » Mark I

(16.03.1945 – 21.03.1945)

Commander : SS-Frw. Hstuf. Henri DERRIKS

Deputy of the operations : SS-Frw. Hstuf. Marcel BONNIVER

Deputy (*Adjutant-major*) : SS-Frw. Jules SANDRON

Orderly officers : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Roger De GOY & SS-Frw. Ustuf. Henri GILLEMONT

Medical officer : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Raymond BUY

Military chaplaincy : SS-Frw. Stubaf. Léon STOCKMAN

1st company :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. André REGIBEAU

Spiess : SS-Frw. Oscha. Paul KEHREN

-1st platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Daniel WOUTERS

-2nd platoon : SS-Frw. Std-Ju. Pierre HANCISSE (Wounded on 17.03.1945)

-3rd peloton : SS-Frw. Hscha. Maxime HAVET (wounded) ; SS-Frw. Oscha. Jacques CHAVANNE (wounded) ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jacques LEROY

2nd company :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Mathieu De COSTER

-1st platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jean PIRON

-2nd platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Maurice DERAVET

-3rd platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Abel DELANNOY

3rd company :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Léon GILLIS

-1st platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Edouard SERLET

-2nd platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jean HALBARDIER

-3rd platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Gustave PAQUOT

4th company (heavy weapons)²⁹³ :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Henri THYSEN

-1st platoon (*Stossreserve*)²⁹⁴ : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Roger GONDRY

-2nd peloton²⁹⁵ : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Georges SUAIN

-3rd peloton²⁹⁶ : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Louis Bervaes

-4th peloton : SS-Frw. Ustuf. René SERLET (Killed on 18.03.1945)

293 The company includes an assault platoon (formerly the divisional FLAK company), a Mi42 platoon and two m.Gr.W.8 platoons.

294 Includes 4 groups of twelve men ; 2 GM + M.K.

295 4 s.M.G.

296 4 mortars of 8cm.

SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 «'t Serclaes de Tilly »

(01.04.1945 – 03.05.1945)

Commander : SS-Frw. Stubaf. Franz HELLEBAUT
Deputy (*Adjutant-major*) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Georges De BONGNIE
Interpreter : **SS-Ustuf. Franz FÖRSTER***
Orderly officer : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Henri GILLEMONT
Signals officer : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Léon CREMERS
Medical officer : **SS-Frw. Ostuf. Raymond BUY**
Military chaplaincy : SS-Frw. Stubaf. Léon STOCKMAN

Ist BATTALION (« *Kampfgruppe Derriks* » Mark II)

Commander : SS-Frw. Stubaf. Henri DERRIKS
Deputy (*Adjutant-major*) : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Robert AMBROES
Orderly officer : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jean HALBARDIER
Liaison officer : SS-Frw. Std-ObJu. Pierre NEUTELEERS
Officer without assignment ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Albert VERPOORTEN

1st company :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. André REGIBEAU (Wounded on 20.04.1945) ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Daniel WOUTERS (Killed on 20.04.1945)
Deputy : SS-Frw. Oscha. Jean-Pierre QUOIRIN
Spiess : SS-Frw. Hscha. Paul KEHREN
-1st platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Daniel WOUTERS
-2nd platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jacques LEROY (Wounded on 20.04.1945)
-3rd platoon : SS-Frw. Hscha. Maxime HAVET (Killed on 20.04.1945)

2nd company :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Mathieu De COSTER (Wounded on 20.04.1945)
-1st platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Jean PIRON (Wounded on 20.04.1945) ; SS-Frw. Oscha. Raoul ROLAND (20.04.1945 – 03.05.1945)
-2nd platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. José GÖRTZ (Killed on 21.04.1945)
-3rd platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Roland DEVRESSE

3rd company :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Léon GILLIS
-1st platoon : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Gustave PAQUOT (Wounded on 21.04.1945)
-2nd platoon : SS-Frw. Hscha. Lucien LAMBERT
-3rd platoon : SS-Frw. Hscha. Fidèle HENDRICKX

4th company :

Commander : SS-Frw. Hstuf. Henri THYSSEN (Killed on 20.04.1945) ; SS-Frw. Ustuf. Charles MONFILS (20.04.1945 – 03.05.1945)
-1st platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Roger GONDRIY
-2nd platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Charles MONFILS
-3rd platoon : SS-Frw. Std.Ju. Hector LANDUCCI (Killed on 23.04.1945)

IInd BATTALION

Commander : SS-Frw. Hstuf. Marcel BONNIVER

Medical officer : W-Ustuf. Ignacio BAANANTE

5th company :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Fernand FOULON

-1st platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Christian De BACKER De RÉVILLE

6th company :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Mathieu-Charles GRISAY

-1st platoon : SS-Frw. Oscha. Georges PHILIPS

-2nd platoon : SS-Frw. Oscha. Rémi VERNIERS

-3rd platoon : SS-Frw. Std.Ju. Georges THONON

7th company :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ostuf. Josy GRAFF

1st platoon : SS-Frw. Std-ObJu. Freddy JACQUES

2nd platoon : SS-Frw. Std-Ju. René De KEYSER

8th company (heavy weapons) :

Commander : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Albert NORTIER

1st platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Willy GRAIDE

2nd platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Abel DELANNOY

3rd platoon : SS-Frw. Ustuf. Robert JOURDAIN

Ersatz Bataillon 36

Like most of the larger units (regiment, division) of the Wehrmacht and Waffen-SS, the Legion / Sturmbrigade / Division Wallonie had its depot and training battalion. It serves, as its name indicates, deposit, training for new recruits, convalescence for the wounded, sick, repatriated, sometimes even « casing » elements unmotivated.

Stationed at Meseritz from August to April 1943, it was first called *Ersatz Battalion 36*.

When transferred to the Waffen-SS, it was at Wildflecken (like the other units of the Sturmbrigade), until 13 April 1944. First designated *SS-Grenadier Ausbildungs und Ersatz Battalion 36* in June 1943, then *SS-Panzergrenadier -Ausbildungs und Ersatz Battalion 36* in December 1943.

Transferred to Debica on April 14, 1944, until August 14, 1944. Then in Breslau until October 30, 1944. And finally, Alfeld, from November 15, 1944 to April 1945.

Commanders :

Oberleutnant René VERDEUR (August - November 1941)

Hauptmann Georges TCHEKHOFF (June 1942 - April 1943)

Stubaf. Bruno SCHULZ* (April – August 1944)

Ostuf. Albert LASSOIS (August - October 1944)

Stubaf. Georges TCHEKHOFF (01.11.1944 – 14.11.1944).

Hstuf. Pierre DENGIS (Novembr 1944 – April 1945)

At the end of the war, two training centers were located near Alfeld, consist of :

-the first at Delligsen, under the orders of the Ostuf. Godsdeel., of two companies. The first was led by Godsdeel himself, the second by the German officer Hstuf. Biens. In this company are many members of the Garde Wallonne who refused to pass to the Waffen-SS

-the second at Grünenplan, commanding by Ostuf. Lassois. Two companies, the first is headed by the Ustuf. Lovinfosse, the second by the Ustuf. Ehinger.

Garde Wallonne

Liaison staff commander : Capitaine Franz JOSSAERTS (January – August 1944)

Ist Battalion (Douai)

Commander : Major Jean MALHERBE (... - October 1943) ; Capitaine Charles HERBECQ (November 1943 – February 1944)

Deputy : Capitaine Paul De MIDDELEER (... - October 1943)

Finances officer : Lieutenant Edouard SOSMAN (... 1942 - ...) ; Sous-lieutenant Stéphane BACHA (May - August 1944)

2nd company (Béthune, then Valenciennes) : Capitaine Robert SLOT d'OLDRUYTEBORGH (July 1942 - ... 1942) ; Capitaine Alfred DUMONT (... 1942 - ... 1943) ; Sous-lieutenant Robert AMBROES (... - May 1943) ; Lieutenant Alphonse VERFAILLIE (May 1943 - ... 1944)

5th company (Douai) : Lieutenant Alphonse VERFAILLIE (... - May 1943) ; Lieutenant Joseph GOFFINET (... - August 1944)

Detachments : Bruay-Thiers-Lagrange (Sous-lieutenant Célestin HASTIR) ; Libercourt (Lieutenant Paul CARLSON) ; Lens (Sous-lieutenant Robert JOURDAIN) ; Beaumont-en-Artois (Lieutenant Joseph GOFFINET) ; Ostricourt (Sous-lieutenant Célestin HASTIR, then Lieutenant Paul CARLSON from 30.01.1943)

IInd Battalion (Charleroi / Mons -July - August 1944)

Commander : Lieutenant then Capitaine Victor BOURDOUXHE (June 1943 – August 1944)

Deputy : Sous-lieutenant Noël VACHAUDEZ (... 1943 - ... 1944) ; Sous-lieutenant then Lieutenant Robert AMBROES (November 1943 – August 1944)

Medical officer : Lieutenant Albert PROVÉ (September 1942 - ...)

Finances officer : Sous-lieutenant Louis BERVAES (March – August 1944)

1st company : Lieutenant Joseph BAILLY (August 1943 - May 1944) ; Léopold DEGOSSELY (May - August 1944)

Platoon chiefs : Sous-lieutenant Ernest CARNOY ; Sous-lieutenant Fernand DARGENT (September 1943 – August 1944)

2nd company (Charleroi) (merges with the 1st company in May 1944) : Sous-lieutenant Maurice SOTTIAUX

3rd compagnie (Mons) : Lieutenant then Capitaine Marcel JAYÉ (... 1943 – August 1944)

Platoon chiefs : Adjudant-chef Paul DUBUISSON (... 1944 – August 1944)

4th company (Seneffe) : Lieutenant Georges MEUNIER (... - ... 1943) ; Lieutenant Marc LEGÉR (... 1943 - ... 1944) ; Lieutenant Jacques VERENNE (... 1944 – August 1944)

5th company (Halle) : Lieutenant André Van MELLE (... - April 1944) ; Sous-lieutenant then Lieutenant Joseph DANGUY (April – August 1944)

6th company (Tournai) : Capitaine Oscar TARAGOLA

IIIrd Battalion (Liège)

Commander : Lieutenant then Capitaine Henri BRAHY (... 1943 - ... 1944)

1st company (Liège) : Sous-lieutenant Alphonse VERFAILLIE (... 1942 - ...) ; Sous-lieutenant Joseph BAILLY (... - May 1943) ; Sous-lieutenant Hermann LICHT (... - August 1944)

2nd company (Liège) : Lieutenant Jean GALERE

<i>Training center of the Garde Wallonne, Mark I (November 1941 – March 1942)</i>

Ist Battalion (Maria-ter-Heide)

Commander : Major Louis VARLEZ (November – December 1941) ; Capitaine G. DEPAIRE (December 1941 – March 1942)

Deputy : Sous-lieutenant Célestin HASTIR (... 1942 - ...)

1st compagnie (motorized) : Capitaine Rodolphe PUISSANT (November 1941 - ...) ; Lieutenant F. TRICOT ; Lieutenant Oscar TARAGOLA

2nd company : Capitaine G. DEPAIRE (November – December 1941) ; Sous-lieutenant Marcel JAYÉ (December 1941 – January 1942)

3th company : Lieutenant F. TRICOT (October - November 1941) ; Lieutenant Georges MEUNIER (November 1941 - ...)

Platoons chiefs : Sous-lieutenant Franz JOSSAERTS (first platoon) ; Sous-lieutenant Joseph BAILLY (second platoon) ; Adjudant Oscar TARAGOLA (third platoon ; ... - December 1941) ; Adjudant Charles MARCHAND (December 1941 – March 1942)

IInd Battalion (Brasschaat)

Commander : Major Jean MALHERBE

4th company : Sous-lieutenant Joseph DUMONT (February – March 1942) ; Lieutenant then Capitaine Charles HERBECQ (March – April 1942)

5th company : Adjudant Charles MARCHAND

Platoon chiefs : Premier-sergent Fernand DARGENT

6th company : Sous-lieutenant Victor BOURDOUXHE

<i>Training center of the Garde Wallonne, Mark II (Contich ; March 1942 - October 1943)</i>

Commander (German) : Hauptmann LAMBRECHTS (... 1942 - ...) ; Hauptmann WOLFF (... - October 1943)

Commander (Belgian) : Capitaine Jean MALHERBE

1st company : ?

2nd company : Sous-lieutenant Franz JOSSAERTS (... 1942 - ... 1943)

3th company : ?

4th company : Hauptmann KOHL

Platoon chiefs : Caporal then Sergeant Robert AMBROES (March 1942 – June 1943)

5th company : Oberleutnant Von ESSEN

6th company : Oberleutnant STREEL

<i>Training center of the Garde Wallonne, Mark III (Namur ; October 1943 - August 1944)</i>

Commander : Hauptmann POHL

Deputy : Oberleutnant Von ESSEN & Oberleutnant DEUTZ

1st company : ?

2nd company : ?

3th company : ?

4th company : Lieutenant Charles MARCHAND (October 1943 - ... 1944) ; Lieutenant Franz JOSSAERTS (... 1943 – January 1944)

5th company : Lieutenant Joseph DANGUY (April 1944 - ... 1944)

Instructor : Lieutenant Joseph BAILLY (May 1944 - ...)

6th company : Leutnant DEUTZ

Staff (Querum)

- Commander : Oberarbeitsführer Léon CLOSSET***
- Staff chief : Oberstfeldmeister Omer EVERARD** (May – August 1944) ; Oberstfeldmeister Paul RELICK* (September 1944 – April 1945)
Deputy : Feldmeister Florent LENOBLE*
- Office Education : Oberstfeldmeister Pierre Van CRAEN
- Office Administration : Oberstfeldmeister Lucien DEVAUX**
- Office Instruction : Feldmeister André RENOTTE**
- Judicial department : Oberfeldmeister Louis SARTILLOT**
- Medical service : Oberfeldmeister Gaston HAELBRECHT
- ? : Feldmeister Gaston ROSE**

Training camp of the chiefs, at Querum. (active from 15.01.1945 to 07.04.1945)

- Commander : Feldmeister Florent LENOBLE* (... - January 1945) ; Feldmeister Raoul VERHIEST (January – April 1945)
- Deputy : Feldmeister Joseph CLUDTS
- Instructor : Feldmeister François QUOIDBACH

Camp n° 1 (W1) at Allerbüttel (active from November 1944 to 31.03.1945)

- Commander : Oberfeldmeister Raymond DREUMONT** (November – December 1944) ; Feldmeister Maurice BOURLET (December 1944 – March 1945)
- Deputy : Henri DENYS*

Camp n° 2 (W2) at Ohrum

- Commander : Oberfeldmeister Albert CONSTANT
- Deputy : Feldmeister Jacques PIERRARD** (... - December 1944)
- Platoons chiefs : Feldmeister André RENOTTE** (first platoon) ; Feldmeister Émile BADJOU*

Camp n° 3 (W3) at Bodentstedt (active from November 1944 to March 1945)

- Commander : Feldmeister Louis DIEU**
- Deputy : Feldmeister : Jacques PIERRARD** (December 1944 – March 1945)
- Platoons chiefs : Feldmeister Joseph BAUJOT** (second platoon)

NB :

- * : men who served for a period at the Legion / Sturmbrigade / Walloon Division as a simple soldier.
- ** : men who served for a period at the Legion / Sturmbrigade / Wallonian Division as a NCO.
- *** : men who served for a period at the Legion / Sturmbrigade / Wallonian Division as officers.

Some numbers...

Recruitment of the Legion/Sturmbrigade/Division Wallonie²⁹⁸

1941 : 1200

1942 : 1843

1943 : 1929

1944 : 2760 to 2850 (260 to 350 Spaniards)

Total : 7732 to 7822.

-Numbers of men in the ranks of the unit

August 1941 : 870

January 1942 : 600

June 1942 : 850

November 1943 : 2000

June 1944 : 1180

January 1945 : 4300

-Strangers

If we subtract the Spaniards (260 to 350), the Russians (at least one hundred, counting the Hiwis squad of the Sturmbrigade and the white Russians emigrated), the French (probably at least 200), the Flemish (number unknown, but about 200 Flemish claiming themselves as such, according to Theo Verlaine), we can estimate that at least 7000 French-speaking Belgians served in the Heer (German army) or in the Waffen-SS²⁹⁹.

-Volunteers who never served during the Waffen-SS period.

Hard to say how many have never belonged to the Waffen-SS. But according to Eddy De Bruyne, 1700 men passed through the Meseritz camp, during the period when the Legion is attached to the Wehrmacht (August 1941 to May 1943). How many did not know the Waffen-SS period? Hard to say, maybe around the half of this number.

-The losses³⁰⁰

There were 657 combat deaths, 863 missing (mostly dead or captured), and 1,035 wounded and evacuated. These are the minimum figures provided by Hellebaut in the early 1980s.

Estimates of Walloon losses on the eastern front vary from about 1500 to about 2300, the latter figure being often advanced.

-Interesting note :

Of the approximately 4300 members of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien » (Wallonische Nr. 1)*, about half will actually be engaged in the last battles of 1945. The other half of the workforce is made up of elements in formation or little motivated.

-The fate of the officers :

26 officers died on duty at the front. 5 others died for other reasons before their judgment. 48 will be sentenced to death in absentia (two officers - Pierre Pauly and Louis Jacobs - will actually be executed), 26 to life imprisonment, 23 to 20 years' imprisonment, 9 to 10 to 20 years in prison, 1 to five years in prison, and finally only one was acquitted (Louis Fierens).

298 Numbers given by Eddy De Bruyne, in « For Rex and for Belgium », p. 223.

299 Hellebaut give 6000 as a number, what is underestimated.

300 Numbers given by Eddy De Bruyne, in « For Rex and for Belgium », pp. 225-227.

-Division Wallonien, origins of the men :

Veterans of the Sturmbrigade : 1200

Ersatz bataillon 36 : 800

Garde Wallonne : 400

NSKK : 600

Jeunesse Légionnaire : 264

Rexistes and collaborators refugees : 900

Kriegsmarine : 150

Total : 4300 men

The Garde Wallonne

Named in memory of the Walloon mercenaries engaged in the Spanish armies in the XVIIth et XVIIIth centuries³⁰¹.

This Garde Wallonne was created at the instigation of Degrelle in July 1941, in parallel with the Legion Wallonie. Its purpose is to remain in Belgium to ensure mainly guard and surveillance missions.

Initially, members of Rex, including Formations de Combat (the paramilitary wing of the party), are invited to engage. We find many old 14-18. Then, many volunteers will come for material reasons.

The commander of the unit is Major Torne (very quickly replaced), assisted by Jean Malherbe (until November 1943), then Paul De Middeleer.

Three battalions were formed, the first based in Douai in France, the second in Mons and the third in Liège. In 1944, there are eight companies, divided between two battalions.

As the situation escalates, the Garde Wallonne will begin to fight against black market activities and the search for refractories. Finally, after the disembarkation of June 6, 1944, the Garde is fully militarized, and it swears allegiance to the Führer, as a classic unit of the Wehrmacht. And so, from June to August 1944, it will be used in the direct fight against the resistance.

The Garde retired in Germany at the beginning of September 1944. And at the beginning of October, the members are transferred to the Wallonia division. Only a little number of officers refuse this transfer because their grade equivalence is not assured. The others, integrated with the rank of *Oberscharführer*, will be (for most of them) promoted *Untersturmführer* after an officer course at Sophienwalde school.

The uniform is that of the Belgian army, dyed dark blue, and piped red. The helmet is the « Adrian » helmet of the old French and Belgian armies. Rank insignia resembling those of the SS will be adopted, but without the runes of course.

After disembarkation, the oak crown on the breast is replaced by the eagle of the Heer. On the cap and the helmet is also an oak crown (silver decal for the helmet). On the cap is a small Belgian cockade.

During the three years of the existence of the Garde, the officers are allowed to wear a dagger of the Wehrmacht.

No crest of nationality is worn on the sleeve.

At least 2423 men served in the Garde at one time or another³⁰².

It can also be noted that a number of French people from northern France served in the Garde.

The NSKK (Nationalsozialistische KraftfahrKorps)

In February 1941, the Belgians are allowed to enlist in the NSKK. In Wallonia, two units are formed : NSKK-Rex and NSKK-AGRA, each depending of their respective parties.

Initially, men wear simple work clothes. They are fully militarized from the end of July 1942, wearing the NSKK uniform and benefit from basic military training.

Those of Rex wear an armband with a red Burgundy cross on a black background. Those of AGRA

301 In his speech of July 6, 1941 in Brussels, Degrelle calls « to constitute urgently the nucleus of a new unit » which he proposed to call Garde Wallonne, « in memory of these magnificent regiments that had once worn the glory of the name on all battlefields. »

302 2261 judgments, and 162 judgments in absentia.

have a small badge « Agra » on the top of their cap.

In July 1943, NSKK-Rex and NSKK-AGRA merge to become NSKK-Wallonia, but Rex will keep the upper hand on the unit. Authorization is given to wear the Walloon badge on the left arm.

They retired in Germany in September 1944, and are integrated into the Wallonia division as of December 1, 1944.

The SVTW (Service des Volontaires du Travail Wallon)

Paramilitary movement founded by Rex in May 1944, following the failure of a first SVTW, in 1943, which was only civilian.

Léon Closset, former Waffen-SS, is named chief for this new service, half-worker half-paramilitary, which will definitely have a « New Order » character³⁰³. The uniforms and ranks are those of R.A.D. (*ReichsArbeitsDienst* - the Reich Labor Service). The flag is from Rex, and the salute is made with outstretched arms.

The SVTW retreats to Germany in September 1944. Camps are established at Allerbüttel, Ohrum and Bodenstedt, and a field camp at Querum. Actives from November 1944 to May 1945, they are dissolved at the approach of the Allied troops.

Hundreds of Belgian workers in Germany were forced to incorporate SVTW. In February 1945, Degrelle even recruited for the Wallonia division.

³⁰³ In June 1944, Closset declares :

« The old service had been a total and indisputable failure [...] whose leaders were obstinate retrogrades, ignoring all of the education and radical changes created by the young people. [...] that indispensable subsidies would continue to come out of the coffers of the Belgian State and reach through the military authority which thus makes possible the safeguarding of the Service and automatically makes it an opponent of Bolshevism. - Quoted by Eddy De Bruyne in "Moi, Führer des Wallons", p. 62.

Holders of the *Eisernes Kreuz II. Klasse*

Officers :

Robert AMBROES
Louis BERVAES
Georges De BONGNIE
Marcel BONNIVER
Camille BOSQUION
Jacques CAPELLE
Léon CLOSSET
Edmond COLLARD
Mathieu De COSTER
François DARAS
Léon DEGRELLE
Abel DELANNOY
Pierre DENGIS
Robert DENIE
Maurice DERAUVET
Henri DERRIKS
Roland DEVRESSE
Joseph DUMONT
Philippe della FAILLE d'HUYSE
Henri FELDBUSCH
Henri GILLEMONT
Léon GILLIS
Adrien GODSDEEL
Antoine GOMBEIR
Roger GONDRY
Roger De GOY
Josy GRAFF
Mathieu-Charles GRISAY
Jean HALBARDIER
Franz HELLEBAUT
Georges JACOBS
Pierre JACQUEMIN
Robert JOURDAIN
Nicolas KAMSKY
Marcel LAMPROYE
Jean-Marie LANTIEZ
Albert LASSOIS
Désiré LECOCQ
Roger LEJEUNE
Raymond LEMAIRE
Jacques LEROY
Alfred LISEIN
Lucien LIPPERT
Henri-Marie LOVINFOSSÉ
Jules MAHIEU
Jules MATHIEU
Sylvère MIESSE
Joseph MIRGAIN
Jean MOREAU
Pierre NEUTELEERS

Albert NORTIER
Gustave PAQUOT
Pierre PAULY
André REGIBEAU
Adolphe RENIER
Georges RUELLE
Albert SAPIN
Georg von SCHAFROFF
René SERLET
Léon STOCKMAN
Georges TCHEKHOFF
Marcel THOMAS
Henri THYSSEN
Hubert VAN EYSER
Virgile VANDERWALLE
Roger WASTIAU
Albert WEHINGER
André WINANDY
Daniel WOUTERS

NCO & Enlisted mens :

Théophile BADOT
Jean-Baptiste BARBIER
Joseph BAUJOT
Georges BAYART
Henri BERCKMANS
Georges BLAVIER
René BLONDIEAU
Mathieu BRASSEL
Louis BRIGODE
Gaston CHAVANNE
Alfred COSYNS
Léon CREPIN
Corradino DAMIANI
Émile DARAS
Auguste DASSY
Gilbert DELRUE
Walter DESCAMPS
Carlos DOHET
Léon DUPONT
Léopold De FELSENEER
Jean FRISSCHEN
Robert GENIN
Jules GERARD
Armand GUELTON
José d'HAESE
Marcel HANS
Fidèle HENDRICKS
René HENROTAY
Marcel HENRY
André HERMANS
Marcel d'HONDT
Freddy JACQUES
Léonard JAFRATTE
Aimé JANCOT

Albert JEHAY
Fernand KAISERGRUBER
Paul KEHREN
René LADRIERE
Hector LANDUCCI
René LARUELLE
Fernand LECOMTE
Jean LEKEUX
Maurice LEMPEREUR
Charles LEONART
Pierre LOMBAES
Maurice LORIAUX
Albert MAHIEU
Roger MANNAERT
Lucien MIGNON
Henri MOREAU
Émile MULLER
Yvonne NEUTELEERS (D.R.K)
Ernest NILE
Jules NOLLET
Paul MEZETTA
Pascal MINET
Henri PHILIPPET
Georges PHILIPS
Georges PIESSEVAUX
Roger PIGEON
Gérard QUOIDBACH
Albert REGNARD
André RENOTTE
Alphonse STEENBRUGGEN
Frédéric STRAGIER
Georges THONON
Marcel De TOURTCHANINOFF
Manuel VALADES
Édouard VANDERSTAPPEN
Maurice VAN LIERDE
Raymond WITTAMER

Holders of the *Eisernes Kreuz I. Klasse*

Officers :

Marcel BONNIVER
Camille BOSQUION
Ricardo BOTET
Jacques CAPELLE
Mathieu De COSTER
François DARAS
Léon DEGRELLE
Abel DELANNOY
Pierre DENGIS
Robert DENIE
Maurice DERAUVET
Henri DERRIKS

Roland DEVRESSE
Joseph DUMONT
Léon GILLIS
Antoine GOMBEIR
Roger GONDRY
Roger De GOY
Josy GRAFF
Mathieu-Charles GRISAY
Jean HALBARDIER
Franz HELLEBAUT
Marcel LAMPROYE
Jean-Marie LANTIEZ
Désiré LECOCQ
Raymond LEMAIRE
Jacques LEROY
Lucien LIPPERT
Jules MATHIEU
Sylvère MIESSE
Joseph MIRGAIN
Jean MOREAU
Pierre NEUTELEERS
Gustave PAQUOT
Pierre PAULY
André REGIBEAU
Adolphe RENIER
Georges RUELE
Albert SAPIN
Georg von SCHAFROFF
René SERLET
Marcel THOMAS
Henri THYSSEN
Daniel WOUTERS

NCO & Enlisted men :

Jean-Baptiste BARBIER
Corradino DAMIANI
Gilbert DELRUE
Fidèle HENDRICKS
Paul MEZETTA
Lucien MIGNON
Henri MOREAU
Henri PHILIPPET
Georges PHILIPS
Jean-Pierre QUOIRIN
Georges THONON

Holders of the *Deutsche Kreuz in Gold*

Léon DEGRELLE
Lucien LIPPERT (posthumous)
Jules MATHIEU (not validated by the German authorities)

Holders of the *Ritterkreuz des Eisernen Kreuzes*

Léon DEGRELLE

Léon GILLIS

Jacques LEROY (not validated by the German authorities)

Holders of the *Ritterkreuz des Eisernen Kreuzes mit Eichenlaub*

Léon DEGRELLE

Walloons SS-PK

François CHOME Ostuf.

Albert VERPOORTEN Ustuf.

Jean BECQUART Uscha.

Émile BRISSA Uscha.

Jacques COPPEE Oscha.

Marcel HENRY Hscha.

Franz THIRY Uscha.

Franz STEURS Oscha.

Charles VRYMAN Uscha.

Charles AVART Stmm.

Jean BARTHELEMY

André BAUGNET Stmm.

Max DEVREUX

Lucien GAILLARD

Charles HAVARD

Marcel HENRY

Léon HOBE

Christian HOUZEAU

Louis MAGHE

Servais MASSET

Bruno NIQUILLE

List of volunteers graduated from Waffen-SS officers schools

Eleventh *Kriegs-Junker-Lehrgang*, Walloon promotion at Bad Tolz, from September 6, 1943 to March 15, 1944 (in July 1943, 53 volunteers are chosen, only 24 finish the stage) :

-Active ranks :

Raymond CAMBY
Jacques CAPELLE
Mathieu De COSTER
Alfred DEVAUX
Roger De GOY
Charles MONFILS
Albert NORTIER
Jean ROMAN
Henri RUE
Jules SANDRON
Paul SCHREIBER
Charles SCHUMACHER
Albert STEIVER
Jean THEATRE
Guy WARNIER
Jacques WAUTELET
Marc WILLEM

-Reserve ranks :

Rudolphe BAL
Marcel CAPOEN
François CHOME
Georges VAN EESBEECK
Willy GRAIDE
Gustave PAQUOT
Marcel THOMAS

Walloons promotion at Kienschlag, from May 5 to September 9, 1944 :

-Incorporated in the 5. SS-Frw.Sturmbrigade « *Wallonien* » at the end of the course :

Georges De BONGNIE
Léon COLLARD
Abel DELANNOY
Raymond DESTATTE
Henri FELDBUSCH
Raphaël FOULON
Ernest FRAIKIN
Paul Van GYSEGEM
Désiré LECOCQ
Jean LIENART
Henri-Marie LOVINFOSSE
Jules MAHIEU
Robert MEAN
Joseph MIGNON
Pierre MIGNON
Jean MOREAU
Jacques POELS
Victor SMETS

Gérard SOENEN
Jean STIEBERT
Georges SUAIN
André VINCKENBOSCH
Virgile VANDERWALLE

-Incorporated to the *SS-Grenadier-Ausbildungs und Ersatz Battalion 36* at the end of the course :

Raymond BERNARD
Albert DUPONT
Philippe della FAILLE d'HUYSE
Roger GONDRIY
José GÖRTZ
Pierre HANCISSE
Jacques De HEUG
Pierre MALISART
Raphaël NIX
Jean PIRON
Raphaël ROORYCK
René SERLET
Henri THEWISSEN
Daniel WOUTERS

-Stay at the school as instructors :

Florent EMSIX
André REGIBEAU

Walloon promotion of Kienschlag, September 9, 1944 to March 31, 1945 :

Roland DEVRESSE
Freddy JACQUES
René De KEYSER
Hector LANDUCCI
Maurice LORIAUX
Pierre NEUTELEERS
Georges THONON

Walloon promotion of Kienschlag, April 16 to 30 June 1945 (interrupted on April 20, 1945) :

Raoul BALLEGEER
Jean CHARBONNIER
Robert DENIS
Maurice HENROT
Maurice SION
Boris TOULOUBIEFF
Léo WERELDS

Promotions not certain (20.04.1945)
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-Hauptsturmführer :

Robert DENIE
Joseph DUMONT
Josy GRAFF
Marcel LAMPROYE
Albert LASSOIS
Joseph MIRGAIN
Roger WASTIAU
Robert Du WELZ

-Obersturmführer :

Raymond CAMBY
Alfred DEVAUX
Willy GRAIDE
Jean-Marie LANTIEZ
Charles MONFILS
Valère-Jahn ROEMAET
Paul SCHREIBER
Charles SCHUMACHER
Gérard SOENEN
Jean THEATRE
Georges VAN EEBEECK
Jacques VERENNE
Guy WARNIER

German officers of the Legion Wallonie

Otto BACHINGER

SS-Obersturmführer

N° SS : 464 036

Birth date : 12.06.1903 in Wien

Frw.Leg."Nederland" (August 1942) ; 5./Pz.GR.4 (October 1943) ; Pz.Brig.Groz (November 1944) ; Chief of the *Feldgendarmarie* of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

Dr. Karl BECKER

SS-Sturmbannführer

N° SS : 309 497

Birth date : 05.09.1909 in Braunschweig

Sani.Abt.6 (January 1943) ; Chief of the 1./Sani.Abt.13 (October 1943) ; Chief of the Office IV/B (medical) of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

Dr. Günter BEDERKE

SS-Hauptsturmführer

N° SS : 195 700

Birth date : 30.03.1904 in Breslau

SS-Vet.Ers.Abt (June 1944) ; Chief of the Office IV/C (veterinary) of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

CZAPP

SS-Standarten-OberJunker

Serves in the radio-telegraphic of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

Hartmut FLECHSIG

SS-Hauptsturmführer

N° SS : 69 160

Birth date : 11.07.1905 in Braunschweig

Chief of the Office III (military justice) of the *SS-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »* (October 1943 – March 1944 ; *Hauptamt SS-Gericht* (6.44) ; Office III of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

Heinz FORSTENEICHNER

SS-Untersturmführer

N° SS : 106 861

Birth date : 18.11.10 in Munich

Chief of the Office I/C (intelligence) of the *SS-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »* (October 1943 – March 1944) ; Assigned to the political services of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

Franz FORSTER

SS-Untersturmführer

N° SS : 376 763

Birth date : 08.08.1908 in Weissenbach/Wien

SS-J.Sch.Tölz (November 1944) ; Interpreter at the Office I/A (operations) of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

Dr. FRIEDERICH

SS-Untersturmführer

N° SS : unknown

Dentist at the medical company of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

Dr. Alfred GRIESEMANN

SS-Untersturmführer

N° SS :492 341

Birth date : 17.10.1906 in Dambach

9.SS-Pz.Div. (June 1944) ; Medical officer of the 1st Battalion of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 70 « Bucquoi »*

Karl HERMANN

SS-Obersturmführer

N° SS : 29 878

Birth date : 21.08.1909 in Tuttlingen

Infanterie Regiment 4 (September 1941) ; 8.SS-Kav.Div. (April 1943) ; Chief of the Office I/B (weapons, equipment, quarters) of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

Friedhelm JEHN

SS-Hauptsturmführer

N° SS : 75 486

Birth date : 12.06.1911 in Plauen (Saxe)

Assigned to the Office IV/A (uniforms, clothing, rations) of the *SS-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »* (he

helds the rank of *Obersturmführer* at this time) ; Chief of the Office IV/A of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

Dr. Erich von LEHE

Hauptmann



Liaison officer of the Legion in 1941-1942 (participates in the fightings of Gromo). Very diplomat, and speaking very well French. On June 15, 1942, during the oath ceremony to the Führer, he receives from Degrelle the golden badge of Rex. Leaves the Legion at the end of 1942 (replaced by von Rabenau).

LEPPIN

Oberleutnant



Liaison officer, also in charge of the Legion's training in 1941. Very unpopular with the Walloons (Leppin was very Pan-Germanic, although he speaks a very good French), he plots with the pro-

Germanists elements of the Legion. Degrelle uses his influence to evict him. He left the Legion definitively in January 1942.

Josef LOCHMANN

SS-Obersturmführer

N° SS : 331 946

Birth date : 22.12.1910 in Arnau/sud

Chief of the Office IV/A (uniforms, clothing, rations) of the 19.Waffen-Gr.Div. (June 1944) ; Chief of the Office IV/A of the 1st Battalion of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 70 « Bucquoi »*

Gottfried METZGER

SS-Obersturmführer

N° SS : 292 458

Birth date : 22.04.1912 in Bendorf-Sayn

Nachsch.5 (April 1941) ; Medical officer of the 1st Battalion of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 70 « Bucquoi »*.

NIKOLAUS

SS-Untersturmführer

Instructor at the signals platoon of the staff company of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 «t Serclaes de Tilly »*

Dr. Heinz OETZMANN

SS-Obersturmführer

N° SS : 177 351

Birth date : 17.04.1909 in Wolmirstedt

15.Waffen-Gr.Div. (September 1943) : Chief of the Office VI (political instruction and activities) of the 28.*SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

Jochen PALGEN

SS-Standarten-OberJunker

Birth date : 06.05.1920

Attended an officer training course at the Bad Tolz School in February-March 1945. On March 28, 1945, while assigned to the *SS-Grenadier Ausbildungs und Ersatz Bataillon 36³⁰⁴*, he is chosen to follow a new internship at the *SS-PanzergranadierSchule* of Kienschlag (18th *Kriegs Lehrgang*), which is to take place from April 16 to June 30, 1945. The course never took place and will be aborted.

304 Depot and replacement unit of the « Wallonien ».

Werner PLAUMANN

SS-Untersturmführer

N°SS : unknown

Birth date : 25.09.1918 in Danzig-Langfuhr

TFK, Werkst.Kp.55 (December 1944) ; Commander of the exploitation stewardship company of the 28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »

Dr. Werner QUAST

SS-Hauptsturmführer

N° SS : unknown

Birth date : 27.10.1912 à Plätz/Osterburg

SS-Vet.AuE.Abt. (November 1944) ; Commander of the veterinary company of the 28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »

Von RABENAU

Rittmeister



Liaison officer of the Legion Wallonia in 1941, and instructor. He continued his training in 1942 with the new recruits. He participates in the Caucasus campaign.

Gustav REINFARTH

SS-Sturmbannführer

N° SS : unknown

Birth date : 05.12.1886

Gräberoffz. 4.SS-Pol.Div. (09.1942) ; Office VI (political instruction and activities) of the *SS-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »* ; *SS-Pz.Gr.AuE.Btl.36* (January 1945)

Heinz RINGELHAN

SS-Untersturmführer

N°SS : unknown

Birth date : 27.09.1921

SS-WTL (November 1944) ; Commander of the equipment company of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*

RUSINGER

SS-Obersturmführer

N° SS : unknown

Chief of the signals platoon of the IInd Battalion of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 «t Serclaes de Tilly »*.

Karl SCHÄFER

SS-Hauptsturmführer



N°SS : 470 232

Birth date : 04.07.1918 in Leverkusen-Wiesdorf

German liaison officer of the *5.SS-Freiwilligen-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »* (Summer 1944) then the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

Josef SCHEBELA

SS-Untersturmführer

N° SS : 305 185

Birth date : 28.01.1908 in Petersdorf

SS-Fhr.Sch.d.Verw.D. (May 1944) ; German liaison officer at the staff of the *5.SS-Freiwilligen-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »* (Summer 1944) ; Chief of the Office IV/A (uniforms, clothing, rations) of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 «t Serclaes de Tilly »*

Rudolf SCHLÜCK

SS-Hauptsturmführer

N°SS : unknown

Birth date : 05.11.1916 in Berlin

Assigned to the Office IV/A (uniforms, clothing, rations) of the *SS-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »* ; Assigned to the political services of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

SCHULTZ

SS-Hauptsturmführer

N°SS : unknown

Chief of the Office IV/B (medical) of the *SS-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »*.

Dr. Robert STAHL

SS-Obersturmführer

N° SS : None

Birth date : 05.09.1917 in Strassbourg

Assigned to the Office IV/B (medical) of the *SS-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »*, with the rank of *Untersturmführer* ; Sani.Kp.55 (December 1944) ; Commander of the medical company of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

THIEMANN

SS-Obersturmführer

N° SS : unknown

Assigned to the Office I/B (weapons, equipment, quarters) of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

WANKA

SS-Untersturmführer

N°SS : unknown

Chief of the Office IV/A (uniforms, clothing, rations & finances) of the IIth Battalion of the SS-

Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 «'t Serclaes de Tilly »

Erich WINTERCHEIDT

SS-Untersturmführer

N°SS : unknown

Birth date : 19.09.1916

German liaison officer of the *SS-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »* ; Orderly officer at the staff of the *SS-Artillerie-Abteilung 28*

Walter ZAPLETAL

SS-Untersturmführer

N° SS : 322 366

Birth date : 07.12.1921 in Hawran/Brux

1./Inf.Rgt.4 (January 1942) with the rank of *Sturmmann* ; Chief of the Office IV/A (uniforms, clothing, rations & finances) of the 1st Battalion of the *SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier Regiment 69 «'t Serclaes de Tilly »*.

Hans ZINSER

SS-Untersturmführer

N°SS : 498 255

Birth date : 20.01.1920 in Posen

Hauptamt SS-Gericht (November 1944) ; Assigned to the Office III (military justice) of the *28.SS-Freiwilligen-Grenadier-Division « Wallonien »*.

Hans-Karl DREXEL

SS-Hauptsturmführer



N° SS : 372 377 (01.11.1938)

Ranks :

SS-Untersturmführer : 04.12.1940

SS-Obersturmführer : 30.01.1942

SS-Hauptsturmführer : 30.01.1944

Hans-Karl Drexel was born on November 22, 1919 in Dettenhausen (Baden-Württemberg). Member of the *HitlerJugend* from March 1933 to April 1938. He voluntarily joined the SS-VT on November 1, 1938, and was assigned to the *SS-Infantry-Regiment « Deutschland »*, with which he participated in the Polish campaign.

Selected to become an officer, he is sent to the Bad Tölz SS officer school³⁰⁵, from where he leaves in February 1940. Platoon leader of the 14th company of the *SS-Infantry-Regiment « Westland »*. He won the *Iron Cross IInd Class* in July 1941, during the first days of Operation Barbarossa.

Appointed commander of the 10th company of the *SS-PanzerGrenadier Regiment 9 « Germania »* on August 3, 1943. A few days later, he is decorated with the *Deutsches Kreuz in Gold*. On September 13, 1943, he was appointed deputy commander of the IInd Battalion of the *SS-Panzer Grenadier Regiment « Westland »*. He commands the battalion when he crushes a Soviet attack at Boiki on September 28, 1943. He is decorated with the *Ritterkreuz*³⁰⁶ little time after.

During the fighting in Cherkassy, he was assigned (on January 17, 1944) to the *SS-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »*, as a liaison officer and military advisor to the Walloons, until February 13. Drexel survived the war and died on April 12, 1962 in Stuttgart.

305 From November 1, 1939 to February 24, 1940.

306 Awards of Drexel :

Eisernes Kreuz II. Klasse : 07.07.1941

Eisernes Kreuz I. Klasse : 20.11.1941

Infanterie Sturmabzeichen in Bronze : 20.04.1942

Winterschlacht Im Osten : 08.09.1942

Deutsches Kreuz in Gold : 03.08.1943

Ritterkreuz des Eisernes Kreuz : 14.10.1943

Albert WEGENER

SS-Standartenführer



N° NSDAP : 5 377 990 (01.05.1937)

N° SS : 309 067 (01.07.1938)

Ranks :

Leutnant : 191_

Leutnant (Polizei) : 12.12.1931

Oberleutnant der Schutzpolizei : 20.04.1934

Hauptmann der Schutzpolizei : 30.01.1937

SS-Hauptsturmführer : 01.07.1938

SS-Sturmbannführer : 01.08.1940

Major der Schutzpolizei : 06.10.1940

SS-Obersturmbannführer (Allgemeine-SS) : 05.01.1942

Oberstleutnant der Schutzpolizei : 05.01.1942

SS-Obersturmbannführer (Waffen-SS) : 01.04.1942

SS-Standartenführer (Waffen-SS) : 30.01.1944 (posthumous)

Albert Wegener was born on March 3, 1900 in Löwenberg (Lower Silesia). Enlisted in the army on June 21, 1918³⁰⁷. He served for several months in a Freikorps until January 24, 1919, and he remained in the army until March 1922, as a supply and security officer for the French occupation troops in Döberitz. He joined the police on November 28, 1923, with whom he will make a career during the inter-war period.³⁰⁸

³⁰⁷ Assigned to the *Ersatz Bataillon de l'Infanterie Regiment 24*, then the depot of the *6. Infanterie Division* until November 1918.

³⁰⁸ He served as a police officer during the 1936 Olympic Games and served at the *Ordnungspolizei General*



Enlisted in the Polizei Division on October 6, 1939, as commander of the *Radfahr Schwadron*, who later becomes *SS-Aufklärung Abteilung 4*³⁰⁹ in April 1940. Awarded the *Deutsches Kreuz in Gold*³¹⁰ on December 24, 1941. Seriously wounded on April 29, 1942, he remained recovering until January 15, 1943. Having recovered, he was appointed commander of the *SS-Ausbildungs Battalion* (training center of reconnaissance units of the Waffen-SS) in Prague.

Appointed liaison officer to the *SS-Sturmbrigade Wallonien* on June 4, 1943. Wegener was killed on February 17, 1944 during the fighting in Cherkassy³¹¹. Promoted *Standartenführer* posthumously, on recommendation of General Gille³¹².



Wegener (on the right) in March 1943. At this time he is commander of the *SS-Ausbildungs Regiment* in Prague.

Staff in Austria after the Anschluss.

309 Reconnaissance battalion of the SS division « Polizei ».

310 One of the first awarded to a soldier of the SS division Polizei.

311 Awards of Wegener :

Eisernes Kreuz II. Klasse

Eisernes Kreuz I. Klasse

Winterschlacht Im Osten : 08.09.1942

Deutsches Kreuz in Gold : 24.12.1941

312 Promotion granted on May 17, 1944 by Himmler, retroactive to January 30, 1944.

Some foreign volunteers of the Legion Wallonie...
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CABREJAS³¹³ *W-Uscha.*

JUAN PINAR *W-Uscha.*

VADILIO *W-Uscha.*

Spaniards serving with the Spanish Volunteer Battalion (incorporated into the 1st Croatian Brigade³¹⁴). Joined the « Wallonien » division in November 1944. Incorporated with their respective ranks of non-commissioned officers, whom they had lost in the Croatian unit.

Ignace ANTOGNOLI

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Ignace Pierre Antognoli was born on September 30, 1905 in Saint-Gilles, near Brussels. Of Swiss nationality, he committed to the NSKK in 1941. Passed the Legion Wallonia in March 1942, with which he served until April 1945.

At the end of the war, Degrelle entrusts his wife and two of his daughters to him, to make them pass in Switzerland, making them pass for his own family. They are recognized on the Austrian-Swiss border, and arrested by the services of the French Security. Despite the Swiss nationality of Antognoli, and the French nationality of Degrelle's wife, they are sent back to Belgium, and imprisoned in the prison of Saint-Gilles, on June 20, 1945.

Gleb GORDINSKI

Born on April 15, 1922 in Nikopol, Bulgaria. Appointed to the NSKK in September 1941. Serves at the *Werbestelle* Thuin from May 1943. Employed at the municipal administration of Charleroi, he leaves this job for an interpreter position at the *JunkersWerke* factories in Courcelles.

Engaged at the Sturmbrigade Wallonien in May 1944. Educated as a radio operator in Nuremberg, then at the Marconists' school in Lehnitz from October 1944. Responsible for the transmissions of the Meuse sabotage and espionage group. He left this group at the beginning of 1945, and was probably paid to the Wallonien division.

Nicolas KAIOUKOFF

Born October 17, 1922 in Constantinople. White Russian, engaged to the Legion Wallonie of August 8, 1941 contingent, he was the driver of commander Pauly. Demobilized he goes to the recruiting office of the Legion in Braine-l'Alleud.

NAOUMENKO

SS-Frw. Oberscharführer

Deputy of Zavadsky in the third platoon of the 4th company of the *SS-Sturmbrigade* « Wallonien ». He is a seventeen men from the peloton who refuse to desert at the end of January 1944.

Bruno NIQUILLE

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Swiss. Photograph in the squad of Walloon war correspondents.

³¹³ His name is sometimes written « Cabraras ». Probably a mistake.

³¹⁴ Officially formed on October 25, 1944, this battalion composed of Spaniards reunited for several months, was incorporated into a Croatian volunteer unit, much to the chagrin of most Spaniards.

Alexander POUCHKINE

SS-Frw. Unterscharführer

Alexander Pushkin was born on March 28, 1903 in Tula, Russia. Great grandson of the Russian poet of the same name. After attempting to join the Vlasov Army, he joined the Legion Wallonie on March 10, 1943. Served in the third platoon of the 4th company (company secretary) of the *SS-Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »*.

Died in 1968.

ROSSI

SS-Frw. Hauptscharführer

French corsican, Rossi³¹⁵ is veteran of the Légion étrangère where he served five years. Serves at the 9th company of the Sturmbrigade in Cherkassy, as *Scharführer*.

He fought in the 4th company of the SS Regiment 69 in Pomerania. He accompanies Régibeau to the shores of Ihna. The latter will join the other shore while swimming. Rossi, not knowing how to swim, will hide in the reeds. Then we do not know what happened to him.

Jan SJÖRGEN

Caporal / Gefreiter

Jan Sjörgen was born in 1917 in Malmö, Sweden. Domiciled in Brussels, engaged to the Legion Wallonie of August 8, 1941 contingent, number 455. Affected to the 1st company. Killed on February 28, 1942 in Gromowaja-Balka.



In the middle, during the oath ceremony (Degrelle on the left).

Serge SMOLENSKY

Serge Smolensky was born on January 25, 1886. Colonel of the Russian army. Emigrated to Belgium. Committed as a simple legionnaire to the Legion Wallonie (registration number 52). Killed at Gromowaja-Balka, on February 28, 1942.

315 Jean Mabire calls him « Ulysse Devert ». Probably a pseudonym ?

Johann STAWINSKI

Johann Stawinski was born in 1927. Polish living in Liège, he joined the *Sturmbrigade « Wallonien »* in 1944.

**Robert THUILLEZ**

French native of Saint-Omer, serves the 1st company of the Regiment SS 69 of André Régibeu, as a personal liaison agent of Régibeu.

Serge TOULOUBIEFF

Légionnaire / Soldat

Serge Victor Touloubieff was born in 1914. Enlisted in the Legion Wallonie in August 1941 (registration number 236)³¹⁶. Wounded a first time on February 23, 1942. Killed on August 28, 1942 at Tcheriakoff.

Nicolas ZAVADSKY

Russian white. Brother of Rotislav Zavadsky. Disappeared in Cherkassy (deserter ?).

³¹⁶ Brother of Boris Touloubieff, platoon chief in the « Wallonien » division in 1945.

Declaration of Beverloo

Lettre adressée au ministre de la Justice, le 21 juillet 1947, par 47 anciens de la Légion Wallonie³¹⁷. La lettre sera publiée dans le journal des vétérans, nommé « Le Journal sans Titre ».

« Monsieur le Ministre,

Nous soussignés, anciens soldats de la Légion Wallonie, actuellement détenus au centre d'internement de Beverloo, avons écrit les lignes qui suivent dans un esprit d'entière sincérité.

A diverses reprises déjà, de hautes personnalités et des fonctionnaires supérieurs du ministre de la Justice ont déclaré officiellement que l'épuration ne pouvait avoir comme conséquence que le rejet de la communauté nationale d'une fraction importante de citoyens, ni la création d'une classe d'ilotes à l'intérieur de l'État Belge : on nous laisse entendre qu'il dépend de nous, et de nous seuls, de manifester notre désir de reprendre place dans la société, en acceptant la peine qui nous a été infligée et en travaillant au rachat qu'on nous impute. Simultanément, le grand public a commencé à admettre qu'il fallait établir des distinctions entre les diverses catégories de délinquants inciviques jusqu'alors confondus sous l'appellation équivoque de traîtres ; à la classification objective déjà existante en collaborateurs économiques, propagandistes, dénonciateurs et porteurs d'uniforme (nous citons sans ordre) est venue s'adjoindre une autre, subjective et plus proche de la réalité qui l'oppose à une minorité vraiment coupable, la grosse masse des citoyens abusés.

On nous excusera de rappeler ces choses devenues banales aujourd'hui mais qui, naguère, nous ont apporté un réconfort précieux. De nos côtés, nous croirions récompenser mal ceux qui nous ont rendu l'espérance auxquels nous devons d'être traités humainement dans ce centre d'internement, si nous ne reconnaissons pas nos torts, dans la mesure où notre dignité est compatible avec un tel aveu. Il n'est pas, en effet dans nos intentions de nous livrer à des actes de contrition spectaculaires, ils nous déconsidéreraient plutôt. Nous cherchons seulement à faciliter l'effort de rapprochement que d'aucuns seulement ont déjà tenté. A vrai dire, la voie que nous suivons n'est pas nouvelle, de nombreux ex-légionnaires nous y ont déjà précédés en acceptant de travailler volontairement dans les mines et en collaborant aussi au redressement économique du pays ; mais si leurs yeux cernés et les tonnes de charbon extraites sont plus éloquentes que le plus long message, qu'il soit permis cependant à ceux que les vieilles blessures ou la maladie rendent inaptes à des travaux aussi lourds, d'explicitier ici un fond d'idées et de pensée communes.

Lorsque nous surmontons le poids des épreuves actuelles et que nous tâchons de voir clair en nous-mêmes pour reconstituer le climat psychologique qui était nôtre, au jour de notre engagement, nous constatons que la plupart d'entre nous répondaient à des aspirations assez différentes ; parmi ceux qu'on dit idéalistes, certains, chrétiens convaincus, partaient combattre le bolchevisme, ennemi de l'Église et de la religion, d'autres subissaient l'attraction exercée par l'Allemagne, terre nourricière du socialisme mais tous, pour peu qu'ils furent sincères, voulaient préserver d'ores et déjà l'essentiel du patrimoine national en cas de victoire germanique.

C'était là une perspective que le déroulement des opérations militaires était loin d'exclure ; plusieurs même trouvaient opportun que la Belgique eut des répondants près de chaque belligérant pour qu'elle disposât, au jour de la paix, d'une double garantie. Calcul assez complexe, on le voit, qui sacrifie inéluctablement un parti, mais dont le détail explique pourquoi les signataires de ces lignes acceptent aujourd'hui le jugement qui les frappe.

Une telle subtilité nous paraît à présent assez puérile, car l'expérience postérieure prouva que le sang

317 Parmi eux : Léon Gillis, Jacques Leroy et douze autres officiers, quatre correspondants de guerre, un gradé de la Jeunesse légionnaire, deux officiers du STW.

des légionnaires tombés en Russie était versé vainement ; il s'avéra avec le temps que l'Allemagne cherchait seulement à recruter des poitrines et multipliait à cette fin les promesses les plus contradictoires. Bien plus, il devint de moins en moins aisé, au sein de l'armée allemande, de servir une autre cause que celle de l'impérialisme germanique. On en trouva la preuve dans le fait que l'idéal légionnaire initial, qui mettait l'accent sur la personne du Roi et la défense de nos intérêts, s'estompa rapidement et fit place à une formule plus radicale. C'est ainsi que, partis en 1941 aux accords de la Brabançonne – jouée pour la première fois en public depuis la capitulation – et avec l'assurance formelle de porter l'uniforme belge, les volontaires du 8 août 1941 se trouvèrent, quatre années plus tard, combattant sous l'uniforme SS pour prolonger les jours d'un régime chancelant.

La responsabilité de cette évolution exécrable vers un extrémisme sans cesse dépassé, à qui faut-il l'attribuer ? Si un chef militaire, de notre ancienne unité, aujourd'hui défunt, nous paraît au-dessus de tout soupçon, il 'en est pas de même, semble t-il, de divers dirigeants politiques rexistes. Sous leur impulsion, en effet, on enrôla, en 1941, des volontaires, même d'ex-gradés d'active, au nom du Chef de l'État et pour la seule lutte contre la Russie, tandis qu'en 1942, on enrégimentera des adolescents de quinze ans sous le prétexte fallacieux de participer à une réunion de jeunesses européennes. Quoiqu'il devint bientôt manifeste que les premiers morts tombés au cri de Vive la Belgique ! N'avaient libéré que quelques rares prisonniers et n'avaient pu empêcher l'instauration du travail obligatoire, le recrutement fut intensifié. On le mena sous des formes renouvelées mais tout aussi redoutables, puisqu'en 1944, au printemps, des officiers supérieurs belges aux mérites insignes et au passé glorieux en furent les victimes. Après la libération de la patrie par les Alliés, la réquisition au service armé de travailleurs déportés acheva la triste histoire d'une légion de volontaires. En nous exprimant ainsi, nous ne pensons pas offenser la mémoire de nos camarades tombés, au front de l'Est, pour une cause qu'ils croyaient bonne, c'est à dire compatible avec leur honneur de Belges.

Les engagés du début, dont nous sommes pour la plupart, assistèrent donc à l'écroulement progressif de leurs illusions sans que toutefois, on les vit à partir d'une date précise, se désolidariser nettement du mouvement dans lequel ils s'étaient engagés. Si l'on excepte le problème moral que pose la rupture d'un engagement, il ne faut pas oublier que le refus d'obéissance est puni de mort dans les armées en campagne.

Nous n'avons pas voulu réécrire ici les plaidoiries qui devant tels conseils de guerre ont été prononcées pour nous, ni surtout accumuler les circonstances dites atténuantes ; si nous avons rappelé de tels faits, c'est pour mieux faire comprendre par tous ceux qui veulent bien nous vouer quelque intérêt, que nous nous inclinons devant les rigueurs actuelles. Dès le jour où par notre engagement nous nous sommes exposés à la masse des compatriotes et où nous avons attiré sur nos personnes une haine justifiée ou non, nous admettons aussi qu'un moment viendrait peut-être où nous aurions des comptes à rendre, une explication à fournir et même des représailles à essuyer. Si nous revendiquons le mérite de notre bonne volonté initiale, nous comprenons aussi que d'autres belges animés d'intentions aussi excellentes que les nôtres, nous aient taxés de trahison. Quand à nous, fidèles à ce désir d'aider la patrie – mais engagés par ce désir dans l'erreur que fut la collaboration avec l'Allemagne -, nous avons souhaité qu'on sût quel était notre état d'esprit après deux années de captivité. Tous les signataires de ce manifeste sont déjà au travail, à l'apprentissage ou à l'étude dans le cadres des occupations que le régime pénitentiaire leur a imposées. Rares sont ceux que n'accable pas la misère. Le sort des mutilés, des invalides, des pères de famille nombreuse, est particulièrement cruel. Ils acceptent néanmoins leurs maux dans l'espoir de jours proches meilleurs. Mais l'emprisonnement que nous subissons, s'il ne nous a pas aigris, s'il n'a pas annihilé dans nos cœurs le respect de la patrie, ruine, hélas, plus de foyers chaque jour. Croit-on, dès lors, que libres, nous pourrions avoir d'autres préoccupations, d'autres activités que celles propres à des pères, des maris et des fils dévoués ? Recouvrer pour nos proches et pour nous-mêmes, une honnête prospérité, voilà le but auquel tendraient nos justes efforts. Qu'on sache enfin en écrivant ces lignes nous ne cherchons qu'à servir le pays par une œuvre digne et sincère. »

Cette déclaration fera polémique auprès des autres vétérans³¹⁸, en désaccord avec les 47. Comme le montre, en 1980, le commentaire d'un vétéran :

« Nous encore vivants, 33 ans après, avons le devoir de dire la Vérité avant de mourir (nous ! Les acteurs!). Faire taire nos scrupules et notre modestie : car nos détracteurs, nos ennemis attendent la mort du dernier témoin pour exhiber cette lettre de 47 renégats, afin de tromper l'historien honnête. Que TOUS sachent que ces 47 quidams ne représentent qu'eux-mêmes ! Et cette si méprisable faune, chef d'œuvre de la si peu convaincante « Rééducation » !, 47 cons mais ça ne fait que 1,5% de la Légion et 0,087% des camarades détenus dans les prisons et camps de concentration belges. Pourquoi dès lors avoir des scrupules ? Neutralisez donc ce Watergate-Wallon : Amen. »

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