

STATEMENT

Ultimate authority and responsibility for military affairs in Germany was vested in the Head of State, who prior to 2 August 1934 was Field Marshal von Hindenburg and thereafter until 1945 was Adolf Hitler.

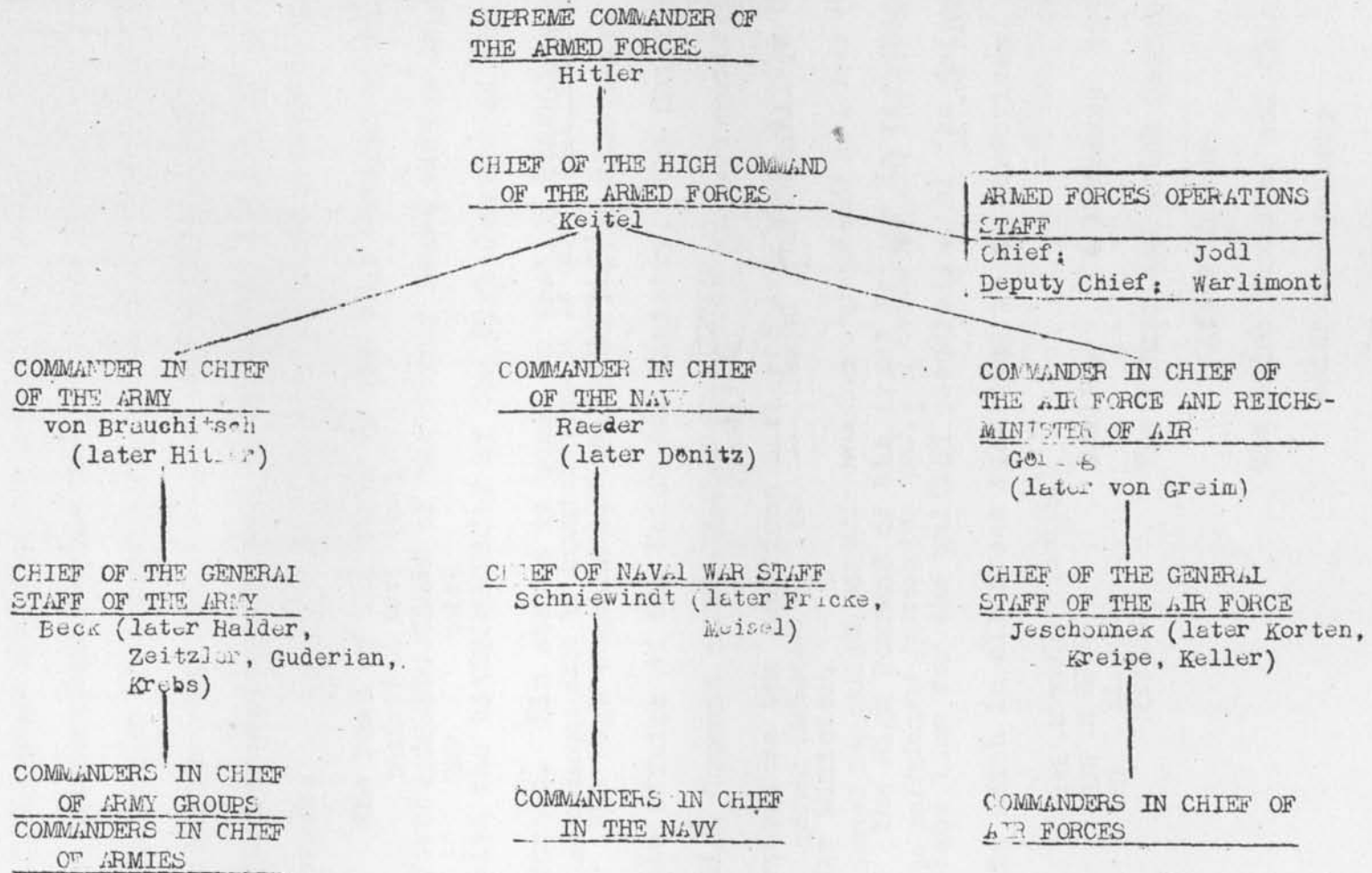
Specialized military matters were the responsibility of the three branches of the Armed Forces subordinate to the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces (at the same time Head of State), that is to say the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. In practice, supervision within this field was exercised by a relatively small group of high-ranking officers. These officers exercised such supervision in their official capacity and by virtue of their training, their positions and their mutual contacts. Plans for military operations of the German Armed Forces were prepared by members of this group according to the instructions of the OKW and were presented by them to the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces (at the same time Head of State).

The members of this group were vested with full authority to prepare for military operations within their competent fields and they actually did prepare for any such operations as might be undertaken by troops in the field.

Prior to any operation, members of this group were assembled and given appropriate direction by the Head of State. Examples of such meetings are the speech by Hitler to the Commanders-in-Chief on 22 August 1939 prior to the Polish campaign and the consultation at the Reich Chancellery on 14 June 1941 prior to the first Russian campaign. The composition of this group and the relationship of its members to each other were as shown in the attached chart. In the hands of those who filled the positions shown in the chart lay the actual direction of the Armed Forces.

(Signed) von BRAUCHITSCH

CHART



CITY OF NURNBERG: SS

Before me, PAUL A. NEULAND, Major, QMC, ASN O-385720, an officer duly qualified to take oaths, appeared Field Marshal WALTER von BRAUCHITSCH, to me known, who in my presence signed the foregoing "Erklärung" (statement) consisting of two pages in the German language with amendments initialed by him, together with an attached chart, and swore that the same including the attached chart, was true on the 7th day of November 1945.

(Signed) Paul A. Neuland
PAUL A. NEULAND
Major QMC
O-385720

TRANSLATOR'S NOTE: (The above acknowledgment of oath appeared in the original in English)

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION
OF DOCUMENT

I, WALTER H. RAPP, Captain, Cavalry, ASN O-454231, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German languages; and that the above is a true and correct translation of Affidavit No. 2.

(Signed) Walter H. Rapp
WALTER H. RAPP
Captain CAV
O-454231