

Hamilton's list

Kujau-Hitlers described by Charles Hamilton, 1991

By Bart FM Droog, The Post Online/Droog Magazine, Amsterdam/Eenrum, January 14, 2019

At the end of the 1980's a great quantity of alleged Hitler documents and drawings was offered for sale in the United States. They originated from an elderly man called 'Jim Winslow', from Punta Gorda (Florida), and were all forgeries, made by Konrad Kujau.

The American handwriting expert Charles Hamilton¹ fooled Winslow into sending him a great number of these forgeries. Hamilton examined them for the US Postal Service - as this service is partially responsible for the detection of fraudulent documents in the US. The Kujau-forgeries were returned to Winslow however, after he convinced the authorities that he was unaware all the items were fakes, and that he would withdraw them for the market. Which, obviously, he didn't.

Luckily Hamilton had made a list of these items, which he published in his book *The Hitler diaries* (1991).² Even though his descriptions are very short, a number of the alleged Hitler drawings and documents offered by Milestone Auctions in 2017 and 2019, can be recognized on Hamilton's list.

1 Charles Hamilton (1913 or 1914 - 1996). See: Robert Mcg. Thomas Jr. Charles Hamilton Jr., 82, An Expert on Handwriting. The New York Times, New York, Dec. 13, 1996.

<https://www.nytimes.com/1996/12/13/arts/charles-hamilton-jr-82-an-expert-on-handwriting.html>

2 Charles Hamilton. *The Hitler Diaries. Fakes that Fooled the World*. The University Press of Kentucky, 1991.

The List

#	Description by Hamilton	Corresponding lot at Milestone Auctions
1.	32-page handwritten speech signed "Af. Hitler"	Milestone Auctions 26-08-2017, 72e
2.	handwritten document dated 1933 signed "Af. Hitler"	Milestone Auctions 26-08-2017, 65e
3.	15-page handwritten document signed "Af. Hitler"	
4.	38-page handwritten speech signed "Af. Hitler"	
5.	lengthy handwritten document, 1931	
6.	8-page handwritten document, 1923, signed	
7.	1-page document allegedly by Hitler	Milestone Auctions 26-08-2017, 65f ?
8.	long handwritten document signed "Af. Hitler"	
9.	1-page handwritten document, signed, 1922	
10.	41-page handwritten document, signed	Milestone Auctions 26-08-2017, 72e
11.	lengthy document, 1927	
12.	lengthy document, 1930	
13.	1-page document, signed	
14.	2 documents signed by Hitler	Milestone Auctions 26-08-2017, 58c
15.	1-page document, signed	
16.	multipage document, signed, 1933	Milestone Auctions 26-08-2017, 65b
17.	group of documents, 3 handwritten and 1 typed, all signed by Hitler, 1931-32	
18.	hand-drawn sketch signed by Hitler	Milestone Auctions 19-01-2019, 562
19.	sketch with handwriting, signed, 1917	Milestone Auctions 19-01-2019, 560
20.	drawing signed by Hitler	Milestone Auctions 19-01-2019, 563
21.	drawing by Hitler dated 1930	
22.	handwritten document signed "Af. Hitler" dated 1930	
23.	drawing allegedly by Hitler 1916	Milestone Auctions 19-01-2019, 561
24	various unnumbered items,	
24a	including a handwritten document with a photo of Hitler attached dated 1932	Milestone Auctions, 19-1-2019, 565
24b	documents dated 1925	

Not identified on Hamilton's list, but - according to Miles King of Milestone Auctions - originating from the same source as the other auctioned alleged Hitler material:

Milestone Auctions 26-08-2017, [65c](#) - handwritten speech, 4 pages, dated 1926.

Milestone Auctions 19-01-2019, [564](#) - oil painting 'Blumen im Zimmer'

The Florida connection?

As has been said, Winslow was living in Florida. Wolfgang Schulze, a. k.a. 'Schulze von Mertschinsky', Kujau's American agent, lived in Florida too. Coincidence?

As early as 1976 this Schulze had imported and sold numerous Kujau forgeries into the United States. ³ Very little is known about this man, except that he *did* exist and was a con artist.

The late W.C. Stumps, one of the many shady characters from the American Nazi memorabilia collectors scene, wrote in 2003 this on Wolfgang Schulze:

"Schulz Wolfgang von Merchenski. (I may not have spelled his name correctly.) (...) I met this dealer years ago and he had a home in German and one here in the States. He had many fine original items and worked with "Dr." Peter Bauer [= Breuer] super tailor who made most of the uniforms now in collections from his costume studio in Munich.

They were two crooked old characters who laughed all the way to the bank as they deposited their profits from the suckers and fake mongers who sold their wares until they passed across the bar in the late 70's. I bet old Schultz will get a big chuckle when some sucker pays \$40K or more in a few weeks for his post war "art work"."⁴

³ Gitta Sereny. *The German Trauma. Experiences and Reflections 1938-1999*. Penguin Books, London, 2000. Chapter 8.

⁴ W.C. Stump, 10-03-2003, <http://forum.wehrmacht-awards.com/forums/showthread.php?t=33936>