

THE GERMAN BATTALION OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

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Early in the year 1776, anticipating the possibility of hostilities with England, the Continental Congress decided to raise an army from the thirteen colonies, each colony to furnish a quota of officers and men based upon the size of population and the ability to procure arms and supplies. This was the genesis of the Continental Army, as distinguished from the local colonial militia forces.

In addition to the regular Colonial units, the Congress authorized the establishment of a number of additional regiments. One of these was the German Battalion composed of officers and men selected from among the German settlers of Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Accordingly, the Continental Congress, in pursuance of this objective, in the spring of 1776, passed several resolutions as follows:

Resolves of the Continental Congress of 25 May 1776

"Resolved that one Battalion of Germans be raised for the Service of the United Colonies"

Resolves of the Continental Congress 27 June 1776

"Resolved that four companies of Germans be raised in Pennsylvania and four companies in Maryland to compose said regiment"

In Maryland, the Convention then in charge of the Colonial Government, in order to comply with these requirements of the Continental Congress, passed the following resolutions:

Resolves of the Maryland Convention 6 July 1776

"Resolved that this Province will raise four companies, and that two companies of Germans be raised in Baltimore County and two in Frederick County."

"Resolved that another company be added to the German Battalion and that David Welper (Woelper) be appointed Captain of said company." This, the Ninth Company, consisted of both Marylanders and Pennsylvanians under command of Captain Woelper.

Each Company consisted of ninety enlisted men and the following officers: a Captain, a 1st Lieutenant, 2nd Lieutenant, Ensign and non-commissioned officers: 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 2 Drummers or one Fifer and one Drummer and 80 privates. The Regiment was commanded by a Colonel, and the officers under him were a Lieutenant-Colonel, two Majors, a Chaplain, a Surgeon and a Surgeon's Mate.

The German Regiment was organized under the command of Colonel

Nicholas Haussegger of Pennsylvania, commissioned July 17, 1776. Previously Colonel Haussegger had been a Major of the 4th Pennsylvania Battalion of Militia. Next in rank was Lieutenant-Colonel George Stricker of Frederick, Maryland, whose commission also is dated July 17, 1776. Colonel Stricker resigned his commission April 29, 1777 and was succeeded by Major Ludwig Weltner of Maryland, who then became Lieutenant-Colonel.

Next in line of rank was Major William Klein, a native of Prussia, who had previous military training in Europe. When Major Weltner was raised to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel he was succeeded by Major, formerly Captain, Daniel Burkhardt of Pennsylvania. Subsequently Major Klein was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel. His place was filled by Captain George Hubley of Pennsylvania, who was commissioned Major.

The Chaplain was Rev. James Francis Armstrong of Maryland, appointed December 3, 1777. He did not serve for long, as he resigned on February 1, 1778. The Surgeon was Dr. Charles Ritter of Maryland, appointed Regimental Surgeon September 1, 1776. He served until August 1778, when he was succeeded by Dr. Peter Peres of Philadelphia. The Surgeon's Mate was Alexander Smith of Maryland, who was appointed in August, 1778 and served until January 1, 1781.

Count Louis von Linkensdorf, a German officer from Europe, became Adjutant of the Regiment. The Paymaster was Michael Eberhardt, and the Regimental Quartermasters were Jacob Meil and later, Ensign Jacob Raybold of Maryland. Eberhardt and Meil were Pennsylvanians and served until the reorganization of the Regiment in August, 1778.

The Pennsylvania Companies were staffed as follows when the Battalion was organized on July 17, 1776:

Captains: Jacob Bonner, John David Burkhardt, George Hubley and Benjamin Weiser.

First Lieutenants: Jacob Bauer, Peter Boyer, Bernard Hubley, Frederick William Rice and Frederick Rohlwagen.

Second Lieutenants: George Haubecker, William Ritter, George Schaffner and Frederick Weiser.

Ensigns: Jacob Cramer, Christian Gleckner, Christopher Helm, Philip Schröder, Christopher Gottfried Schwartz and John Weideman.

The four companies of the German Battalion which were organized in Maryland had the following original officers as of July 12, 1776:

The officers of the two Companies established from Baltimore County were:

Captain Henry Fister's Company

Captain Henry Fister
1st Lieutenant Charles Balzell
2nd Lieutenant Michael Mayer
Ensign Jacob Grommet

Captain George Keepert's Company

Captain George Keepert
1st Lieutenant Samuel Gerock
2nd Lieutenant William Ritter
Ensign John Lindenberger

Two Companies organized in Frederick County, Maryland, had officers as follows:

Captain Philip Graybill's Company

Captain Philip Graybill
1st Lieutenant John Lorah
2nd Lieutenant Christian Meyers
Ensign Martin Shugart

Captain William Keyser's Company

Captain William Keyser
1st Lieutenant Jacob Kotz
2nd Lieutenant Adam Smith
Ensign Paul Christian

It may be noted that many of the men of Captain Keyser's Company came from Washington County. Some of the men in the two Baltimore County Companies actually came from the Frederick area or from the part of Baltimore County adjacent to Frederick which later became Carroll County.

The swift completion of the organization and equipment of the German Battalion in the Summer months of 1776 is a credit as much to the recruiting skill of the commissioned officers as to the spirit of the German-speaking settlers. Particularly in Baltimore and in the western counties of Maryland, the sons of German and Swiss immigrants responded well to the call to arms. The local communities provided everything from uniforms to arms. Ironmen and gunsmiths in the German settlements could scarcely keep up with the requirements of their battalion. The so-called Lancaster County rifle (later to be known as Kentucky rifle) was provided by German gunsmiths in many communities. By rifling the inner barrel of the weapon, this rifle was a much more accurate and deadly weapon than the conventional smooth-bore musket. The latter weapon, however, could be fired more rapidly than the rifle. The British soon came to dread the deadly accuracy of the rifles of the German Battalion, but for the most part it was the bayonet charge, rather than gunfire, which decided the outcome of the battles of the American Revolution.

The original enlistment for the German Battalion was for three years and some of the first men were so enlisted. For the farm population of Western Maryland such a long absence over three harvest seasons seemed an undue hardship and eventually shorter enlistments were accepted. On July 17, 1776 an additional company could be raised.

The German Battalion, commanded by Colonel Haussegger, then marched from Philadelphia to New York, where it took part in the Battle of Long Island, August 26 to 28, 1776, the Battle of Harlem Heights on September 16, 1776 and in ensuing skirmishes, particularly at White Plains, until the retreat following the British capture of Fort Washington in November. In each of these engagements the fire of the riflemen succeeded in holding back the attacks of the enemy for several hours. The British and their German mercenary forces had great respect for the marksmanship of the American Germans, but due to the excessive time required to reload the rifles, it was the bayonet which decided the ultimate outcome of the battles. In this connection the comments of the Hessian Colonel von Heeringen to his superior, General von Lossberg are pertinent: "These people are more to be pitied than feared. After the first rounds of fire, it takes a full quarter of an hour to reload a rifle, and they soon fell victims to our bayonets."

After the fall of Fort Washington the remainder of the Continentals withdrew across the Delaware River into Pennsylvania. In this situation when the American cause was at its lowest, General Washington realized the necessity of reviving the hopes of his countrymen by some bold action. With this objective in mind, he crossed the Delaware River on Christmas night 1776 and attacked the British and Hessian forces at Trenton. The enemy was enjoying Christmas festivities and was completely surprised. In the confusion of the night fighting which ensued, the Continentals inflicted heavy losses on their opponents, and captured large amounts of ammunition and other supplies which they badly needed. The German Battalion was in the forefront of the fighting, and suffered losses accordingly. Among the victims was their regimental commander, Colonel Nicholas Haussegger, who was taken prisoner by the Hessians.

On January 3-4, 1777, General Washington repeated the same tactics, recrossing the Delaware and falling upon the British camp at Princeton, again capturing supplies of food and munitions needed by his men. In this engagement the German Battalion fought under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Stricker of Maryland.

During the late winter and spring, the Continental army was reorganized. The militia regiments had proven unreliable. The Maryland forces, seriously reduced by losses in battle, were consolidated into two regiments and five more Maryland regiments were raised. These, with the German Battalion, were organized into the celebrated "Maryland Line." They were divided into two brigades. Four regiments were placed under General William Smallwood of Maryland, and the German Regiments and three Maryland regiments were put under command of General de Borre, a Frenchman. These two brigades constituted the force commanded by Major General John Sullivan.

There were important changes among the officers of the German Battalion. After the inglorious exit of its original commander, Colonel Nicholas Haussegger, a Prussian officer, Baron d'Arendt, was imposed on the battalion as field commander with the rank of colonel. This prompted the angry resignation of Marylander George Stricker. Since the baronial colonel was largely absent during the subsequent months, the command of the German Battalion was virtually and ably performed by Major Ludwig Weltner of Maryland. Weltner was appointed Lieutenant Colonel, as was Major William Klein who belonged to the original Pennsylvania contingent. Captains Daniel Burckhardt and George Hubley were promoted to majors.

Captains Henry Fister, George Keepert and Benjamin Weiser were replaced. Among the lieutenants of the German Regiment who were commissioned as captains in the reorganization of the spring of 1777 were John Baltzell, Samuel Gerock, John Lindenberger, George Lorah, Frederick William Rice and John David Woelper. Lieutenant Paul Bentalou, a French cavalry officer, became First Lieutenant.

In August 1777 the reorganized German Battalion had its first action in the night raid on Staten Island. After initial success, the American forces were driven into retreat. Despite heavy fighting, the German Battalion escaped with only minor losses. After the British landed at Elk River, the scene of the war was shifted to the area between Wilmington and Philadelphia. The German Battalion was guarding the crossing of Brandywine Creek at Chadd's Ford at the beginning of the Battle of Brandywine on September 11, 1777. The seasoned riflemen forced a strong contingent of Hessians under General von Knyphausen to abandon the

initial attack. But then tactical mistakes and rivalry on the part of some American commanders and a superb strategy of the British and Hessian forces led to a disastrous defeat.

The German Battalion suffered most severely. The extent and severity of these losses is indicated by the fact, as stated in Heitman's *Historical Register of the Officers of the Continental Army*, that the manpower of the German Battalion had been reduced from the original nine companies to two companies which spent the winter of 1777-1778 at Valley Forge, plus a detachment of Maryland Germans who were in winter quarters with General Smallwood.

During the winter of 1777-1778 General von Steuben transformed the American army into an efficient fighting unit. He compiled a manual of arms and instructed the men in the proper use of the bayonet. He held classes in strategy and tactics for the senior officers.

The German Battalion was reorganized. The best officers were promoted and new men were recruited in Maryland and Pennsylvania to fill the ranks. Colonel Ludwig Weltner became the commanding officer. Among the officers who were retired or who resigned in the spring of 1778 were Captain Philip Graybill, Captain William Keyser, Captain John Lorah, Captain John Baltzel, Lieutenant Jacob Kotz, Lieutenant John Lindenberg, all of Maryland, and Captain John David Woelper and Lieutenant George Haubecker of Pennsylvania. Lieutenant John Weidman of Pennsylvania had been taken prisoner at the Battle of Brandywine. He was not exchanged until December, 1780. Lieutenants Paul Bentalou and George Schaffner transferred to Pulaski's Legion.

Officers of the German Battalion who were promoted in the spring of 1778 were as follows: Lieutenant Bernard Hubley of Pennsylvania and Lieutenant Christian Meyers of Maryland became Captains, as did Lieutenant Jacob Schröder of Pennsylvania. The Second Lieutenants, Jacob Cramer and Christopher Gottfried Schwarz, both of Pennsylvania, and Martin Shugart of Maryland became First Lieutenants. David Diffenderfer and Christian Gleckner, both of Pennsylvania, received Ensign's commissions.

On February 26, 1778 the German Battalion was officially made a part of Maryland's quota to improve and facilitate recruitment as well as supplies. It was numbered as the Eighth Maryland but in most records its original designation as the German Battalion was retained.

The German Battalion, as part of General Sullivan's division, served in the operations at Rhode Island in the late summer and fall of 1778. For the most part these actions consisted of surprise attacks on British outposts. The only definite documentation of the Battalion is dated September 5, 1778. It is a record of a payroll for a part of the Battalion, then stationed at White Plains, New York.

In 1779 Sullivan was assigned the duty of protecting the western frontier against the Indians. As an important unit of his Brigade the German Battalion was active in the punitive expedition against the Iroquois Indians and Butler's Rangers. The Indian warfare was brought to a successful conclusion in September 1779. The First Maryland Brigade, now commanded by General de Kalb, was sent south, where it remained for the remainder of the war. The German Battalion, under the immediate command of Colonel Ludwig Weltner of Maryland, continued its assignment of guarding the frontier, under the overall command of General Sullivan.

In 1780 the German Battalion was sent to Pennsylvania where it served throughout the year in Northumberland County, guarding the frontiers

against the Indians. There were no large scale engagements during this final period of the activity of the Battalion.

On January 1, 1781, on General Washington's order for the "Reform of the Army," the Maryland forces were consolidated into five regiments serving in the Southern campaign. By this order the German Battalion was officially disbanded, and the officers and men were retired, thus ending the existence of this Battalion which had served its country in good and bad days with honor and distinction for nearly five years. A respectable number of the veterans of the battalion was retained for service in the Frederick Detachment of the Maryland Line, a unit set up to guard the prisoners quartered in Frederick in 1781 and 1782.

General Washington held the German Battalion in the highest esteem, which is evidenced by his report to the Board of War dated February 19, 1781 which concluded: "The Board of War will be pleased to pay attention to a memorial of Lieutenant Colonel Weltner of the German Battalion. He is a deserving officer and has always conducted himself and the officers of his regiment, the charge of which was in fact always upon him, with singular propriety. His health is much impaired by the Service, and if Baron d'Arendt was considered as having quitted the command of the Regiment when he returned to Europe, I think Colonel Weltner is justly entitled to the emoluments of a Lieutenant Colonel Commandant from that time."

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ON THE OFFICERS OF THE GERMAN BATTALION

Colonel Nicholas Haussegger

Nicholas Haussegger of Pennsylvania was the first commanding officer of the German Battalion. He is said to have been born in Germany and to have received military training there prior to coming to Pennsylvania. On January 4, 1776 he became a Major in the 4th Pennsylvania Battalion of Militia. When the German Battalion was organized in July 1776, Haussegger was transferred to it, promoted to the rank of Colonel, and made Battalion Commander. Under his command the Battalion was engaged in the Battle of Long Island from August 26th to August 28th, 1776 and in engagements of Harlem Plains, Montrossor's Island September 24th, Harlem Heights October 12th, White Plains October 28th, and Fort Washington, November 16th. He commanded the Battalion during subsequent campaigns around northern New Jersey. During this entire period Colonel Haussegger showed himself to be an able field commander and a man possessed of courage and qualities of leadership. He led the Battalion in the attack on the Hessians in the Battle of Trenton, January 3, 1777, but was taken prisoner in that engagement. His subsequent career has been difficult to trace, and has been the subject of controversy.

General George Washington in a letter to John Beatty in reference to the exchange of prisoners of war wrote: "You are not to exchange . . . Colonel Haussegger . . . he was taken in a manner which will not suffer us to consider him in the light of a common prisoner." It has also been stated that "On February 1, 1781, Colonel Hassegger sent in his resignation and commission to General Washington, having joined the enemy" (*Writings of Washington*, XVI, 131).

Accounts of the defection of Colonel Haussegger are inconsistent and probably inaccurate in the light of the subsequent history of Colonel Haussegger. At the end of the Revolution Haussegger returned to his home in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, where he lived until his death in July,

1786. During his later years he applied for bounty lands to which the soldiers of the Revolution became entitled, and after his death his heirs received the land grants in question from the State of Pennsylvania. His heirs surely would not have received such bounty lands if Colonel Haussegger had been regarded as a traitor. This aspect of his career has not been clarified and remains a mystery. (Cf. Need, *Settlement*, 225-6 and Richards, *Rev. War*, 399).

Colonel Heinrich Leonhardt von Arendt

Baron Heinrich Leonhardt von Arendt, known in America as d'Arendt, was born in Germany and served in the Prussian army. He came to America early in 1777, and was appointed Colonel of the Battalion on March 19, 1777. As such he became the commanding field officer of the Battalion in the place of Colonel Nicholas Haussegger, who had been taken prisoner at the Battle of Trenton. In this capacity he served under General Prudhomme de Borre, a Frenchman, to whose command the German Battalion had been assigned.

On June 25, 1777 Colonel von Arendt requested permission of General Washington to go to Philadelphia and lay before the Continental Congress his proposal for a treaty of alliance with the King of Prussia. Washington consented, provided "that he should not be absent from the German Battalion for more than two days, as the officers needed supervision." (*Writings of Washington*, VIII, 301) Colonel von Arendt was unsuccessful in that attempt. Furthermore, as a foreigner and one accustomed to the strict discipline of the Prussian army, he was not popular with the officers serving under him. His brief and much resented command ended in August, 1777 when he applied for a leave of absence on account of ill health. His request was granted and he returned to Europe. When he came back to America late in 1780 he did not re-enter the service as the German Battalion was then about to be retired.

Colonel George Stricker

George Stricker was born in Frederick County, Maryland in 1732. His parents were Swiss who settled in North Carolina but later came to Frederick County, Maryland. As a young man he served as an officer in the French and Indian War in 1755, and took part in the defense of Western Maryland against the Indians after the defeat of General Braddock in 1755. At the approach of the American Revolution he was commissioned Captain in January 14, 1776 in the regiment organized by Colonel William Smallwood and was stationed near Annapolis for several months. Upon the organization of the German Battalion he was appointed Lieutenant Colonel on July 17, 1776, being then its highest ranking officer from Maryland.

Stricker, a prominent member of the German Reformed church in Frederick, was probably the most ardent recruiter among his fellow Germans. Time and again his name appears in the Maryland records. At one point he reported that he had raised twenty-one men for his German company in two days. The Council was well aware of his effectiveness and, in recommending him for the commission, it was stated: "We think the service will be benefitted by his Appointment. If he should be commissioned the sooner 'tis done the better as it will probably be a great inducement to his Countrymen to enlist." Stricker fought, with the German Battalion, in the battles around New York City and in the cam-

paigns of northern New Jersey. He was the second highest ranking officer of the Battalion and became its field commander when Colonel Nicholas Haussegger was taken prisoner at the Battle of Trenton. Colonel Stricker led the Battalion at the Battle of Princeton on January 3-4, 1777. When the Battalion was reorganized in the spring of 1777, Colonel von Arendt was placed in command with Colonel Stricker as his subordinate. Colonel Stricker became angered at being passed over in this manner and thought that he should have been promoted to full Colonel and continued as Battalion commander. For this reason he resigned his commission on April 29, 1777 and retired to private life. His oldest son was General John Stricker. He died in Ohio County, Virginia (now West Virginia) on November 29, 1810.

Colonel Ludwig Weltner

Ludwig Weltner was an officer in the Frederick County Militia during the French and Indian War. He took part in the defense of the western frontier in the difficult years after Braddock's defeat. Weltner was either the immigrant of 1751 or a son by the same name. At any rate, he was born in Germany. When the German Battalion was organized Weltner was commissioned as a Major. He took part in the battles around New York City, as well as the Battles of Trenton and Princeton. Major Weltner was raised to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel on April 29, 1777, and from all accounts was actually acting in command of the regiment after the resignation of Colonel George Stricker.

As Lieutenant Colonel, Weltner was in charge of the remnants of the German Battalion at Valley Forge in the winter of 1777-1778. When the Battalion was reorganized in the spring of 1778 he became its field commander, serving in this capacity at the Battle of Monmouth and in the campaigns of General Sullivan against the Indian tribes of Western New York and Pennsylvania. Colonel Weltner was the most outstanding of all the officers of the German Battalion. He was a competent field commander and was respected and liked by his junior officers and by the enlisted men. As commanding officer of the German Battalion Weltner should have been made a full Colonel. In the later years of the War, however, it was the policy of General Washington not to create any new Colonels because a Lieutenant Colonel, if taken prisoner, had a better chance of being exchanged, Washington having observed that almost no British officers of the rank of full Colonel were ever captured.

Colonel Weltner continued in service until he was retired, together with the Battalion, on January 1, 1781. On February 19, 1781, General Washington wrote a letter to the Board of War, in which he expressed the highest praise of Weltner as an officer and soldier, and requested that he be given the emoluments of a full Colonel. After the war Colonel Weltner resumed life in Frederick County, where he was also active in the affairs of the Lutheran Church.

Colonel William Klein

Lieutenant Colonel William Klein was born in Germany and, as a young man, is said to have served in the Prussian army. He emigrated to America and probably settled in Lancaster County. Upon the organization of the German Battalion he was one of the two majors appointed from Pennsylvania, July 17, 1776. He served with the Battalion continuously in this capacity until September 3, 1778. He then became second in command under Colonel Weltner, taking part in General Sullivan's

campaigns against the Indians. His health had suffered during the long years of warfare and on June 21, 1779, there being no further fighting in prospect, Colonel Klein resigned his commission and returned to Germany.

Major Daniel Burchart

Daniel Burchart (Burkhardt) possibly of York County, Pennsylvania, having had experience as a militia officer, was commissioned as Captain of one of the Pennsylvania Companies when the German Battalion was organized. He seems to have made an excellent officer and soldier, leading his company in the campaigns around New York City and in the ensuing fighting in New Jersey. He was raised to the rank of Major when the Battalion was reorganized on April 7, 1777. He was in command of one of the two companies of the German Battalion which wintered at Valley Forge. He continued in active service with the Battalion until the summer of 1779, when the Indian tribes on the Pennsylvania-New York frontier were finally subdued. He resigned his commission on July 2, 1779 and retired.

Major George Hubley

George Hubley came from one of the pioneer families of Lancaster County. He was of Huguenot ancestry. His paternal ancestor, Bernard, fled to Switzerland and later to Germany from where he emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1732. The family contributed four officers to the first American army. George Hubley was one of the first appointed Captains of the German Battalion. He received his commission on July 12, 1776. It is probable that he had previous military experience and that he had taken an active part in recruiting enlisted men for the Company which he commanded. He served as leader of his Company with distinction during the first year's fighting around New York City and in northern New Jersey. He was promoted to the rank of Major on April 8, 1777. He continued to serve with the German Battalion and died in service on February 7, 1778.

In addition to Major George Hubley, both Captain Adam Huhley and Captain Bernadd Hubley were officers of the German Battalion. The fourth member of the family, Lieutenant Frederick Hubley, was Paymaster of Thompson's Rifle Battalion and later Quartermaster of the First Pennsylvania Continental Infantry.

Captain Charles Baltzell

Charles Baltzell was born in Alsace on October 15, 1737. He came to America and settled near Frederick. Later he lived in Baltimore County. He took part in the defense of the frontier against the Indians, after the defeat of General Braddock. He was appointed 1st Lieutenant in the German Battalion on July 12, 1776, and was raised to Captain on May 10, 1777. He was wounded at the Battle of Germantown, October 4, 1777, but recovered and continued in the service with the Battalion until January 1, 1781 when the Battalion was retired. After the Revolution Captain Baltzell returned to his Maryland home. He died at Woodstock in Baltimore County on December 31, 1813.

Captain Jacob Bonner

Jacob Bonner (Bunner) of Philadelphia was appointed Captain on July 12, 1776 when the German Battalion was organized. He served in that capacity throughout the War, retiring on January 1, 1781.

Captain Michael Boyer

Michael Boyer is said to have been born in Baltimores County. The name is spelled variously as Boyer, Bowyer and Bayer, the last-mentioned being the original name. He served as an officer of the German Battalion throughout its entire period of service. He was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant on July 12, 1776, raised to 1st Lieutenant in November, 1777, and promoted to Captain May 25, 1778. He retired January 1, 1781. The Boyer or Bayer family has had many descendants in both Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Captain Peter Boyer

Peter Boyer served in one of the Pennsylvania companies of the German Battalion. He was probably a brother or cousin of Captain Michael Boyer. He was appointed 1st Lieutenant on July 12, 1776 and promoted to Captain June 20, 1779. He retired January 1, 1781. After the Revolution he lived in Philadelphia.

Captain Henry Fister

Henry Fister, probably of Baltimore County, was appointed Captain of the German Battalion on July 12, 1776. Many of the men in his Company were from Baltimore County. After serving in the first year of the War, he resigned, probably as a result of wounds or ill health, on April 7, 1777.

Captain Samuel Gerock

Samuel Gerock was the son of the Reverend Johann Siegfried Gerock, pastor of Zion Lutheran Church in Baltimore. He volunteered early in the war and was appointed 1st Lieutenant in the German Battalion on July 12, 1776 in the company commanded by Captain George Keepert. He served in that rank until July 1, 1777, when he was raised to the rank of captain. In November 1777 he left the battalion and was appointed quartermaster to the state hospital. However, he held that office less than a year. Although a state document refers to him as "a person that has fought Bravely in our Service in the Beginning of the War," Captain Keepert reported to the Council that Samuel Gerock had stolen eleven barrels of powder. Gerock was given a discharge which included the statement, "that he has behaved with very great Impropriety." Later Gerock was arrested in Frederick under the suspicion of trading with the enemy. He remained in the Frederick jail for three months until his widely respected father secured his release on the promise of guaranteeing his son's further conduct. The charges were never heard in court afterward and were evidently suppressed.

Pastor Gerock's patriotism was beyond doubt throughout the war years. Another son of his, George Gerock, was Captain Keepert's supply assistant for the procurement of munitions, equipment and food.

Captain Philip Graybill

Philip Graybill of Baltimore County was appointed Captain of the German Battalion on July 8, 1776. He is credited with having recruited the equivalent of two companies in and about Baltimore. He served for two years and resigned March 12, 1778. His family, originally named Krähenbühl, came from Emmenthal in Switzerland.

Captain Adam Hubley

Adam Hubley received his commission in the German Battalion on October 27, 1776. His service with the Battalion was brief. He was transferred to the 10th Pennsylvania Regiment on December 6, 1776 and promoted to the rank of Major. He became a Lieutenant Colonel and on February 13, 1779 he was assigned to the 13th Pennsylvania Regiment. He retired from the service on January 17, 1781 and died in 1793.

Captain Bernard Hubley

Bernard Hubley was probably the youngest of the three Hubleys to serve as officers of the German Battalion. He began his career with the Battalion as a First Lieutenant on August 12, 1776. After a year and a half with the Battalion he received his Captain's commission on February 24, 1778. He continued in service with the Battalion until it was disbanded on January 1, 1781. He died in 1808.

Captain George Keepert

George Keepert (the name was originally Kühbord) was a native of Baltimore County. His family was a prominent one in business and in the affairs of the German Reformed church. He began his military career on January 4, 1776 as one of the lieutenants in the Seventh Company Baltimore County. When plans were formulated for organizing the German Battalion, he was largely instrumental in enlisting men, many of whom were from Baltimore County, and made up his Company. He received his Captain's commission on July 12, 1776. Captain Keepert led his men in the battles around New York City and Brooklyn in late 1776 as well as in the battles of Trenton and Princeton in the winter of 1776-1777.

He resigned his commission on May 4, 1777 and retired to his home in Baltimore for the purpose of becoming supply officer and purchasing agent for the Continental Army. He opened his office in Baltimore City and was successful in obtaining much needed supplies for the Army. He succeeded in obtaining guns, ammunition and powder for the armies of General Washington, much of which was manufactured by German artisans of Frederick County, Maryland. In addition, he furnished large quantities of horses, tents, shoes, as well as meats, flour and beans. A report of the City published in 1779 described the manifold activities of Captain George Keepert and praised him for the efficient manner in which he conducted his business.

After the war, Keepert was one of the most outstanding merchants of Baltimore. His substantial home, built after the Revolution, was a landmark at the southeast corner of Pratt and Charles Streets. It was originally in an area where the well-to-do merchants of Baltimore resided, and was in existence until it was demolished in 1973 for the Harbor Center Development of Baltimore.

Captain William Keyser

Captain William Keyser was probably born in Frederick County. He was appointed Captain of the German Battalion on July 12, 1776. The men making up his Company were mostly from Washington County, Maryland. Captain Keyser served for two years and resigned May 21, 1778.

Captain John Lorah

John Lorah of Frederick County, Maryland began his military career as a 2nd Lieutenant of the Frederick County Flying Camp in June, 1776. Shortly thereafter he was transferred to the German Battalion, becoming a 1st Lieutenant in the Company of Captain Graybill on July 12, 1776. He was in active service in this capacity in the first year of war. On May 28, 1777 he became Captain and Commanding Officer of his Company, continuing as such until the end of the winter of 1777-1778. He resigned his commission, probably on the grounds of ill health, on February 28, 1778 and retired to Washington County, Maryland, where he lived for the remainder of his life.

Captain Christian Meyers

Christian Meyers was one of the officers who served with the German Battalion throughout the Revolutionary War. He began his career on July 12, 1776 as 2nd Lieutenant in the Company commanded by Captain Graybill. His record of steady promotions indicates that he was an excellent officer. On May 12, 1777 he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant and nearly a year later on March 12, 1778 he became Captain and Company Commander. He continued with the Battalion in this capacity for the remainder of the War. He was retired when the Battalion ceased its existence on January 1, 1781.

Captain Frederick William Rice

Frederick William Rice (Reiss) was one of the Pennsylvania officers who served with the German Battalion throughout its entire existence. On July 12, 1776 when the Battalion was organized he was commissioned as 1st Lieutenant, which would indicate that he had had previous military experience. He served through the Campaigns of 1776 with distinction and was promoted to Captain on January 4, 1777. He continued as Captain and commanding officer of his Company until January 1, 1781, when the Battalion was disbanded and its officer retired. He lived in Lancaster in his later years. He died at Kensington, Lancaster, Pennsylvania in January, 1805.

Captain Philip Schraeder

Captain Philip Schraeder, whose name also appears as Shraeder and Shrawder, was one of the original officers of the German Battalion. He began his service as 2nd Lieutenant on July 12, 1776. After the first year's campaigns, he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant on May 17, 1777, and raised to the rank of Captain on February 8, 1778. He retired when the Battalion ceased its existence on January 1, 1781. He is said to have been especially skilled in Indian warfare, and upon his retirement he became a Captain in the Pennsylvania Rangers and spent the next two years safeguarding the Pennsylvania frontier. In his later years, Captain Schraeder lived in Philadelphia, where he died in 1828.

Captain Benjamin Weiser

Benjamin Weiser was a descendant of the Weisers, a pioneer family of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Weiser was active in recruiting men for Company, and on July 12, 1776 was commissioned Captain of a company composed mostly of men from Lancaster County. According to Heitman,

Captain Benjamin Weiser was cashiered on October 31, 1776 for misconduct at Montessor's Island. The offense probably consisted of failure to restrain his men from looting the farmers of the island. After the War, Captain Weiser resided at Selingsgrove, Pennsylvania.

Captain John David Woelper

John David Woelper (Welper) was appointed Captain of the 3rd Pennsylvania Battalion of Militia in January 1776, and was commissioned Captain of the German Battalion July 17, 1776. His Company was the Ninth Company of the Pennsylvania Regiment and was composed both of Marylanders and Pennsylvanians. He served with the Battalion for the next two years. On June 11, 1778, as a result of wounds suffered in battle, Captain Woelper was transferred to the Invalid Regiment. He continued in the service until April 23, 1783.

1st Lieutenant Jacob Bower

1st Lieutenant Jacob Bower or Bauer of Pennsylvania was appointed one of the 1st Lieutenants of the German Battalion on July 12, 1776. He was transferred to Ottendorff's Battalion on April 9, 1777, and later was an officer in Pulaski's Legion.

1st Lieutenant Paul Bentalou

Paul Bentalou was born in France and became an officer in the French Cavalry. In August 1776 he arrived in Philadelphia and went to the headquarters of General Washington and offered his services. Washington informed Bentalou that he had no need for cavalry officers. According to his autobiography, Bentalou then offered to serve in any capacity, even that of private in the Continental Army. Impressed by Bentalou's devotion to the cause of freedom, Washington on September 25, 1776 assigned Bentalou to the German Battalion with the rank of 2nd Lieutenant. On June 21, 1777 he was advanced to 1st Lieutenant. As he still desired to serve as a cavalry officer, he resigned his position with the German Battalion on December 10, 1777, and on April 12, 1778 he received his commission as Captain of the 1st Cavalry in Pulaski's Legion. Captain Bentalou retired from Continental service on January 1, 1781. He spent his later years in Baltimore, becoming one of its leading citizens.

1st Lieutenant Jacob Cramer

Jacob Cramer probably of York County, Pennsylvania, served as an officer of the German Battalion throughout the entire period of its existence. He was appointed Ensign on July 8, 1776 and was named 2nd Lieutenant on May 15, 1777. He was promoted to 1st Lieutenant on February 8, 1778, probably at Valley Forge, and continued to serve until the Battalion was disbanded on January 1, 1781. Thereafter Lieutenant Cramer served for several years as an officer of the Pennsylvania Rangers, protecting the frontier against the Indians. The Cramer family has been prominent for generations both in York County, Pennsylvania, and in adjacent areas in Maryland.

1st Lieutenant Jacob Grommet

Jacob Grometh or Grommet served with the German Battalion throughout its entire existence. On July 1 1776 he was commissioned as Ensign

in Captain Henry Fister's Company. He was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant on May 12, 1777 and advanced to 1st Lieutenant on January 4, 1778. He retired January 1, 1781 when the Battalion was disbanded.

1st Lieutenant George Haubecker

The name is also spelled Hawbecker. George Haubecker, one of the Pennsylvania officers of the German Battalion, was appointed 2nd Lieutenant on July 12, 1776 and promoted to 1st Lieutenant on August 10, 1777. He resigned in January, 1778 possibly because of ill health.

1st Lieutenant Jacob Kotz

Jacob Kotz, sometimes called Kortz, became 2nd Lieutenant in Captain William Heyser's Company on July 12, 1776 and was promoted to 1st Lieutenant on September 25, 1776. He served with the Battalion in that capacity until April 8, 1778, when he resigned and returned to his home in Western Maryland.

1st Lieutenant Frederick Rohlwagen

Frederick Rohlwagen, whose name is also spelled Rowlwagen, one of the Pennsylvania officers, was one of the original officers of the German Battalion. Heitman states that he was cashiered on April 15, 1777, but gives no further details of his career.

1st Lieutenant Christopher Gottfried Schwartz

Christopher Gottfried Schwartz was one of the Pennsylvanians serving with the German Battalion throughout the War. He was appointed Ensign July 12, 1776 (Heitman says 19th) and raised to the rank of 2nd Lieutenant on May 14, 1777 after the first year of service. He was promoted to 1st Lieutenant on February 12, 1778, and retired when the Battalion was disbanded on January 1, 1781.

1st Lieutenant Martin Shugart

Martin Shugart was appointed Ensign of Captain Graybill's Company from Western Maryland, on July 11, 1776. He was probably related to Lieutenant Zacharias Shugart of the Pennsylvania Battalion of the Flying Camp, who was taken prisoner at Fort Washington on November 16, 1776. Ensign Martin Shugart of Maryland was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant on November 15, 1777, and after spending the winter at Valley Forge, was promoted to 1st Lieutenant on May 25, 1778. He continued in service with the Battalion until its dissolution on January 1, 1781.

1st Lieutenant John Weidmann

John Weidmann of Pennsylvania was appointed 2nd Lieutenant of the German Battalion upon its organization in July 1776 and was promoted to 1st Lieutenant on May 15, 1777. Lieutenant Weidmann was taken prisoner at the Battle of Brandy wine on September 11, 1777. This ended his active military service. He remained in British custody until December 30, 1780 when he was exchanged. He was decommissioned or resigned January 1, 1781 when the Battalion was discontinued in service.

1st Lieutenant Marcus Young

Marcus Young (Jung) of Pennsylvania enlisted as a private when the Battalion was organized in July 1776, and during the insuing campaigns displayed abilities which caused him to be advanced to corporal and then to sergeant. On June 8, 1777 he received his 2nd Lieutenant's commission, and the following year on March 12, 1778 was promoted to 1st Lieutenant. He continued to serve with the Battalion until it was disbanded January 1, 1781.

2nd Lieutenant Christian Helm

Christian Helm of Pennsylvania was appointed Ensign in the German Battalion on July 12, 1776. He was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant on May 13, 1777. He was taken prisoner at Fort Washington, but later was exchanged. According to Heitman he was superseded September 12, 1777.

2nd Lieutenant Jacob Laudermilk

Jacob Laudermilk was commissioned as Ensign of the German Battalion on November 19, 1776 and was assigned to the Company of Captain "William Heyser. He was an able officer and was promoted to the rank of 2nd Lieutenant on May 13, 1777. He resigned his commission on April 8, 1778, probably for reason of health, after enduring the hardships of the winter at Valley Forge.

2nd Lieutenant John Lindenberger

John Lindenberger a Baltimorean and member of Zion Lutheran Church, was appointed Ensign in Captain George Keepert's Company, which was largely composed of officers and men from Baltimore County. He served with the Battalion throughout the first year of the Revolutionary War. In April 20, 1777 Lieutenant Lindenberger was transferred to the 4th Continental Artillery (Maryland) with the rank of 1st Lieutenant. He continued in service until his resignation on February 3, 1779.

2nd Lieutenant David Morgan

David Morgan of Frederick County, Maryland, began his long career with the German Battalion as an enlisted man. He became a Sergeant in the Company commanded by Captain William Heyser on November 5, 1776. He received his officer's commission the next year on August 13, 1777, with the rank of Ensign. The following year when the Battalion was reorganized after the winter at Valley Forge, Morgan was promoted on April 8, 1778 to 2nd Lieutenant. He continued in service until the existence of the Battalion was terminated on January 1, 1781.

2nd Lieutenant George Schaffner

George Schaffner of Pennsylvania, was one of the original officers of the German Battalion, appointed Ensign July 12, 1776. He served with the Battalion for only a short time. On February 4, 1777 he was transferred to Lieutenant Paul Schott's Company of Ottendorff's Battalion. On February 8, 1778 he became a Captain of the 3rd Company of Count Pulaski's Legion. Heitman states that Schaffner subsequently was advanced to the rank of Major, but gives no date for either such promotion nor for the date of Schaffner's separation from the service.

2nd Lieutenant Adam Smith

Adam Smith (Schmidt) was one of the original Maryland officers in the German Battalion. He was made 2nd Lieutenant in Captain William Keyser's Company on July 12, 1776. This Company was made up largely of men from the area of Washington County, Maryland. Lieutenant Smith resigned May 4, 1777.

Ensign Paul Christian

Paul Christian was commissioned as Ensign in the German Battalion on July 12, 1776. He was assigned to Captain William Heyser's Company of men from Western Maryland. His service was of short duration. He resigned his commission, probably for reasons of health, on November 8, 1776.

Ensign George Cole

George Cole of Baltimore, where his family was active in Zion Lutheran Church, began his military career as a corporal in the Company of Captain George Keepert. He served as a non-commissioned officer of the German Battalion until August 17, 1777, when he received his Ensign's commission. He resigned June 2, 1778 and returned to Maryland, where he died on May 21, 1828.

Ensign David Diffenderfer

David Diffenderfer of Pennsylvania enlisted as a private in the German Battalion on August 25, 1776. He was promoted to corporal on December 1, 1776. He was taken prisoner at the Battle of Monmouth on May 10, 1777 but later released and rejoined the Battalion on April 24, 1778. He became a commissioned officer when he was made Ensign on July 23, 1778. He resigned and retired from the service on June 23, 1779.

Ensign Christian Gleckner

Christian Gleckner began his career in war as a non-commissioned officer, when he was appointed on July 12, 1776 as a sergeant of one of the Pennsylvania Companies of the German Battalion. He continued with the Battalion throughout its existence. After two years of service, Gleckner received his commission as Ensign on July 23, 1778. He spent the next two years with the Battalion, guarding the western frontier against the Indians. He continued in the service until the Battalion was disbanded on January 1, 1781.

Ensign Henry Hain

Henry Hain, probably of Baltimore County, began his long career with the German Battalion on July 18, 1776 as a private in the Company commanded by Captain Henry Fister. He was advanced in rank each year. On March 1, 1777 he became a corporal and the following year, on June 12, 1778, he became a sergeant. He received his commission as Ensign of his Company of the German Battalion on July 23, 1778. He spent the next year with the Battalion, protecting the frontier against the Indians. He resigned on June 20, 1779.

Ensign Henry Maag

Henry Maag was a sergeant in one of the Pennsylvania Companies of the German Battalion, appointed July 10, 1776. He received his commis-

sion as Ensign on August 15, 1777 and continued in service for the next two years. According to Heitman, he was cashiered on March 26, 1779.

Ensign John Machenheimer

John Machenheimer, of Frederick County, Maryland, began his career with the German Battalion as a non-commissioned officer on July 19, 1776, when he was appointed Sergeant in the Company of Captain Graybill. He received his Ensign's commission on August 8, 1777. He resigned and returned to his home on May 31, 1778.

Lieutenant John Stricker

Lieutenant (later General in the War of 1812) John Stricker was born in Frederick County, Maryland in 1752. He was the son of Colonel George Stricker. At the outbreak of the Revolution, he was appointed as Cadet in the German Battalion, serving in the company of Captain Philip Graybill at the Battles of Long Island, Harlem Heights, White Plains, Fort Washington, Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth. After the Battle of Trenton he was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant placed in charge of Hessian prisoners. He conducted them to the prison camp at Frederick. Thereafter he was transferred to the 2nd Pennsylvania Regiment, and later to the 3rd Pennsylvania Regiment. He took part in the campaigns of General Sullivan against the Indians.

After the war Stricker engaged in business in Baltimore. Stricker organized a company of Baltimore Militia and in 1794 took part in the suppression of the Whiskey Rebellion in Pennsylvania. In 1801 he was appointed Naval Agent for the Port of Baltimore.

At the outbreak of the War of 1812, as General Stricker he became the commanding field officer of the Maryland Militia for the defense of Baltimore. He was in command of the American forces at the Battle of North Point, September 10-12, 1814, when his men successfully withstood the attack of 5000 veteran soldiers.

In later years he was a member of the City Council of Baltimore, but declined to run for the United States Senate. Stricker Street in Baltimore City is named in his honor. He was instrumental in reorganizing the German Society of Maryland in 1817 and was one of its vice-presidents until his death. He was an Original Member of the Society of the Cincinnati, which was formed by officers of the Continental Army, first of the Pennsylvania Society, later transferring his membership to the Maryland Society of the Cincinnati. He died in Baltimore on June 23, 1825.

Ensign William Trux

William Trux or Truax was probably from Baltimore County, Maryland, as he enlisted as a private in the German Battalion in the Company commanded by Captain George Keeport on July 21, 1776. He was raised to the rank of sergeant on March 1, 1777 and was promoted to Ensign of his Company on July 25, 1778. He continued in service as an officer of the German Battalion until his resignation on July 1, 1779.

SPECIAL BATTALION OFFICERS

Adjutant Ludwig von Linkensdorf

Count Ludwig von Linkensdorf was one of the officers sent by the Prussian General Staff to observe the North American war. As he was

desirous to go beyond mere observation, he was assigned to the German Battalion by order of General Washington on August 9, 1776. He served as its Adjutant throughout all its campaigns. He resigned his post and returned to Europe in June 1779, when the active duties of the Battalion were terminated.

Paymaster Michael Eberhardt

Michael Eberhardt of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, was the paymaster of the German Battalion. He was appointed paymaster on July 12, 1776 and served until his health failed. He died at Lancaster on July 16, 1778. After his death the duties of paymaster were performed by Colonel Ludwig Weltner, or by various officers under the supervision of Weltner.

Quartermaster Jacob Meil

Jacob Meil of Pennsylvania was the first quartermaster of the German Battalion. He was assigned to that position on October 24, 1776 and continued in such duty until he retired in July 1778 and was succeeded by Jacob Rayboldt of Maryland.

Regimental Quartermaster Jacob Raybold

Jacob Raybold of Maryland, probably of Baltimore County, became Quartermaster-Sergeant of the German Battalion in July 1778, the previous Quartermaster, Jacob Meil, having resigned. Quartermaster-Sergeant Raybold received his Ensign's Commission on July 24, 1778. Six days later, on July 30, 1778, Ensign Raybold became the Regimental Quartermaster of the German Battalion. He served the Battalion in such capacity until its dissolution on January 1, 1781, when he retired.

Surgeon Charles Ritter

The first Surgeon of the German Battalion was Dr. Charles Ritter of Baltimore County. He acted as Battalion Surgeon during the most important campaigns in which the Battalion participated. He resigned his position in August 1779 and returned to his home in Maryland.

Surgeon Peter Peres

Dr. Peter Peres of Philadelphia, succeeded Dr. Charles Ritter as Surgeon of the German Battalion. He was appointed Battalion Surgeon on September 1, 1778 and served until the Battalion was disbanded on January 1, 1781.

Surgeon's Mate Alexander Smith

Dr. Alexander Smith of Baltimore County was the Surgeon's Mate of the German Battalion. He was appointed August 1, 1778 and served until January 1, 1781 when the Battalion was terminated.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES OF THE MARYLAND COMPANIES

In the early stage recruiting for the German Battalion was restricted to German-speaking men. The case has been cited of one James Fox, who was enrolled by eager George Keepert but wo had to be transferred to another unit "not being a German or the son of a German could not serve

in that Regiment." George Washington expressed his satisfaction with the recruiting activities of the officers when he reported to Governor Lee that the German Battalion had enlisted 1074 men by July 1776.

No complete muster roll has been found. Together with the church records of the many Lutheran and German Reformed congregations in Maryland, such a roll would provide genealogists with as complete a roster of colonial German settlers and their sons as possible. In the absence of a complete listing for a given date, a reproduction of lists contained in *Archives of Maryland*, XVIII, 261-8 must suffice to do credit to the sergeants, corporals and privates who made the German Battalion the outstanding fighting force it was in the face of so much adversity. The names are given here as they appear in the official publication. The dualism of spelling names practiced by most colonial Germans has not been taken into consideration as the anglicized form was used in all public records.

Valuable additional information on many Maryland members of the German Battalion is contained in Harry Wright Newman's *Maryland Revolutionary Record* (Washington, 1938) among the 3050 pension claims listed.

Roll of Capt. Henry Fister's Company. In the German Battalion. Commd. by Col. Nicholas Hussecker. 1776.

Lieut. Charles Balzel	Sergt. George Wintz
" Michael Bayer	Corpl. George Hoover
Ensign Jacob Grommet	" Fredk. Wilhite
Sergt. John Balzel, recommended	" Jacob Tudderow
by the Major & Capt.	" Jacob Low
" Philip Shroop	Drummer John Heffner
" Philip Shopper	

Privates
 Henry Delawter
 Htnry Hawk
 Fredk. Mittag
 Jacob Fantz
 Peter Copple
 Jacob Kuntz
 John Ridenhour
 Willm. Snider
 Adam Froshour
 Christn. Sheafer
 Leonard Everley, absent
 John Wachtel, Dis. 24 July
 George Studdlemier
 Philip Colour
 Valentine Shotter
 Henry Ziegler
 Jacob Tabler
 Mathias King
 Jacob Miller
 Philip Isingminger
 John Leather
 Henry Hildebrand
 Anthony Miller
 Jacob Farber
 Michael Moser

Privates
 Lud wick Visinger
 Jacob Hammer
 Martin Watkins
 Nicholas Frye
 Jacob Weaver
 Jacob Eggman
 John Beckerson
 George Clinton
 Christopher Slender
 Michael Beiker
 Anthony Hamilton
 Jacob Sheafer
 Adam Charles
 Abraham Fettie
 John Imfeld
 George Shrantz
 Adam Smeltzer
 John Bird
 Gottlieb Klein
 Peter Graff
 John Ringer, absent
 Jacob Croumer
 Philip Stouder
 Peter Hoover

Privates
 Peter Americk
 Conrad Houseman
 John Klein
 Henry Hain
 Jacob Kurtz
 John Zimmerman
 Henry Smith
 Adam Gentner
 Henry Cronies
 Leonard Ludwick
 John Snider
 Henry Herring
 Peter Kuntz
 Justinius Hogshield
 Edward Robertson
 John Shatz
 Michael Stiener
 John Able
 Michael Shoemaker
 Frederick Henninghouse
 Thomas Polehouse
 Bartle Engel
 John Klein
 John Miller, absent

Pay Roll of Capt. Michael Bayer's Company in the German Regiment, Continental Troops in the United States. Commanded by Lt. Col. Ludwick Weltner. For the months of July, August, September and October, 1779.

NAMES	REMARKS	NAMES	REMARKS
Capt. Michael Bayer, (Boyer)		Privates	
Sergt. -----	Promoted Aug. 1st	Ludwick Wesinger	Dischd. July 20
" -----	Dischd. " 9th	Rudolph Marolf	" " "
" -----nley	" July 20th	Jacob Miller, Jr.	" " "
Corpl. ----- Polehouse	Promoted Aug. 1st	John Abel	" " "
" -----k Shoemaker	" " "	Adam Gantner	" " "
" -----rew Robinson	Dischd. July 20th	Jacob Miller, Sr.	" " "
" John Hoshield	" " 24th	Jacob Cramer	" " "
" John Shotz	" " "	Leonard Ludwick	" " 24
Drum. Thomas Hatchcraft		Michael Shoemaker	" " "
" Henry Ferrins		Peter Emerick	" " "
Privates		Henry Herring	" " "
Thomas Mahony		Michael Moser	" " "
George Kepphard		Henry Cronise	" " "
Peter Kuntz		Phillip Fisher	" " "
Abraham Kettle		John Snider	" " "
Henry Fisher		John Wachtel	" " "
John Foliott	Joined Oct 10th	Phillip Strider	" " "
Owen Curley		Jacob Rignagle	" " 26
Charles Fullim		Casemar Hill	" " "
James Johnson		Conrad Housman	" " "
----- Wade		Michael Stoner	" Oct. 12
----- Mallady		William Taylor	" " "
----- -----rd		John Zimmerman	" " "
----- -----	Deserted Augt 35th	John Cline	" " "
Edward Robinson	Dischd. July 20	Peter Hewer	" " "
		Bartle Engle	Died Aug 6

Muster Roll of Capt. Geo. P. Keepport's Compy. of the First German Battalion Continental Troops. Commanded by Colonel Nichs. Husacker. Philadelphia, Sept. 19th, 1776.

ENLISTED.	NAMES.	ENLISTED.	NAMES.
1776		1776	Privates
July 8	George P. Keepports, Capt.	17	Michael Dochterman
12	Saml. Gerock, 1 Lt.	"	Christa. Settlemires
"	Willm. Ritter, 2 "	20	Peter Kries
"	John Lindenberger, Ensign	21	Jacob Koefflich
July 15	Jacob Smith, 1st Serjt.	"	Adam Markel
30	Henry Speck, 2nd "	"	David Streib
Aug. 19	John Keener, 3rd Serjt.	"	Joseph Carrol
"	Christa. Kearns, 4th "	"	David Levy
July 15	George Cole, 1st Corpl.	"	Willm. Trux
19	Fredk. Moppes, 2nd "	"	John Capes
21	Ulrich Linkenfetter, 3rd "	"	John Trux
"	Philip Bitting, 4th "	28	Jacob Bigler
15	Benja. England, Drummer	Aug 1	Jacob Burk
	Privates	3	John Weller
"	Michael Brubacher	5	Gotfried Loure
"	Michael Grosh	"	Jacob Wagner

ENLISTED.	NAMES.	ENLISTED.	NAMES.
1776		1776	
6	Peter Bast	12	John Harring
Aug 7	Jacob Stein	18	John Franken
8	John Schorcht	July 15	John Cole
9	Christa. Lichte	21	Adam Schaeffer
10	George Schlesler	"	Mathias Schreier
"	Danl. Fuhrman	"	Conrad Reitz
11	Henry Traut	"	John Brown
"	Jacob Shütz	"	Fredk. Mongoal
14	Peter Hahn	23	John Bauer
19	George Miller	26	Conrad Boehm
25	Peter Anckle	28	John Miller, sick
5	Jacob Wink	30	Phillip Boehm
"	Danl. Boechler	"	John Smith

Roll of Capt. William Keyser's Company. Dated October 23rd, 1776.

William Keyser, Captain.
Jacob Kottz, 1st Lieut.

Adam Smith, 2nd Lieut.
Paul Christman Ensign.

SERGEANTS	CORPORALS.	DRUMS. & FIFES.
David McCorgan, (recomd. by Maj. & Cap.)	Andrew Filler	George Gittin, Drum
Jacob Hose	Phillip Reevenach	Jacob Gittin, Fife
Daniel Taquet, (or Jaques)	Barnard Frey	
Jacob Miller	William Lewis	

Privates	Privates	Privates
Peter Sheese, Deserted	John Smith	James Duncan
Henry Stroam "	Michael Weaver	John Beecher
Adam Stonebreaker	Jacob Belsoover	Fredk. Switzer
John Fogle	John Rothe	Jacob Fowee, Deserted
Jacob Klein	Wentle Strayly	Thomas Burney, "
George Miller	John Flick	John Itnier
Phillip Fisher	John Metz, Deserted	Phillip Greechbaum
Jonathan Hecket	Henry Michael	Jacob Bishop
Henry Tomm	George Riggelman,	Alex. Sailor
Jacob Hoover	Deserted	Martin Pifer, Deserted
Michael Gambler	Nicholas Baird	Peter Gittin
George Harmony	John Hottfield, Destered	Frances Myers
Thomas Clifton	Jacob Greathouse, "	Melcher Benter
Micgael Boward	George Buch	Tobias Friend, Deserted
Henry Wagner	Stuffle Reeever	Jacob Heefner, "
John Crafft	George Wise	John Smithley, "
John Shoemaker, Deserted	John Michael	Everhard Smith
Mathias Gieser	John Robertson	Godfrey Young
Mothias Dunkle	Adam Lieser, Deserted	Frederick Locher
Frederick Filler	Robt. Hartness, "	Michael Yeakly
Christian Sides, Deserted	Henry Benter	James Furnier
John Kibler	John Armstrong	Henry Queer
Stuffle Wagner	Simon Fogler	Henry Statler, Deserted
Jacob Heefner	Jacob Grass	John Cropp
Conrod Hoyle	Phillip Smithly, Deserted	
Balsor Fisher	George Wilhelm	

Pay Roll of Lt. Col. Weltner's Company in the German Regt, of the Continental forces of the United States. Commanded by Lt. Col. Ludwick Weltner, for the months July, August, Sept and Oct, 1779.

NAMES.	REMARKS.	ENLISTED.	NAMES.
Capt. Philip Shrawder			
Serjt. William Lewis	Disd. July 16th	Privates	
" Jno. Danl. Jacquet	" " 26th	Michael Gambler	
" Jacob Hose	" " "	James Ashley	
Corpl. James Smith	Promd. Aug 1st	William Pointer	
" John Michael	Disd. July 16th	Jacob Mosen	
" John Brucher	" " 17th	Jonathan Hackett	Deserted Aug 25th
" Adam Stonebreaker	" " 26th	Henry Straam	Disd. July 17th
" Bernard Frey	" " "	James Duncan	" " 16th
Drum. Moses McKinsey		George Wilhelm	" " 17th
" Joshua McKinsey		Melcher Benner	" " "
		Fredrik. Schwidzer	" " 16th

NAMES.	REMARKS.	NAMES.	REMARKS.
Privates	Dischd. July 17th	Privates	Dischd. July 26
Michael Yockley	" "	John Etnier	" "
Conrod Hoyle	" 20th	Jacob Bishop	" "
John Fliet	" 26th	Chris. Raver	" "
Fredrik. Filter	" "	Philip Fisher	" "
Michl. Weaver	" "	Fredk. Locker	" Aug. 9
James Forney	" "	Alex. Taylor	" "
Jacob Beltzhoover	" "	Patrick Fliming	" "
John Groop	" "	George Regliman	" Oct. 12
George Getting	" "	Henry Stalter	" "
John Hatfield	" "	Christopr. Waggoner	" "
Henry Michael	" "	John Smith	" "
Thomas Clifton	" "	Henry Benter	" "
John Craft	" "	Philip Smithly	" "
Francis Gavin	" "	Jacob Heefner	" "
Jacob Kline	" "	John Smithly	" "
John Kebler	" "	Jacob Haver	" "
Mathias Keiser	" "	Henry Quier	" July 29
John Armstrong	" "		

A Roll of Capt. Philip Graybell's Company. 1776.

ENLISTED BY CAPT. GREYBELL.

Ferdinand Lorentz	Wilfgang Ettesperger	Jacob Myer, (Myers)
Philip Miller	Christopher Regele, (Regle)	John Shlife
Henry Millberger, (Mill- burger)	Frederick Wm. Haller	John Machenheimer, Sjt.
Jacob Freymiller, (Fry- miller)	John Moore	George Stauffer, Corpl.
James Cappelle, (Caple)	Wendell Andrews, (An- dreas)	Gottlieb Danroth
John Rick	Michael Kearshner	Lorentz Danroth
Lorentz Kneary	Wolfgang Ettzinger	Henry Decker
Jacob Etter	John Shaffer	Jacob Hoffman
Peter Baker	David Mumma, (Muma)	Charles Zarrell
Rudolph Crower	Abraham Frantz	Charles Charles
Adam Rohrbach, (Rohh- baugh)	Frederick Weger	Joseph Procter
Rowland Smith	Henry Hartman	Joseph Braeter
John Shriock, (Shryock)	Wendel Lorentz	Christian Apple
William Rommelsem, Serjt.	Jacob Hartenstein, (Har- denstein)	George Myers, (Myer)
Jacob Striter	William Altimus	Henry Willsdaugh
Martin Lantz	Jacob Burke	George Lighthauser, (Leit- hauser)
John Hearly, (Harley)	Jacob Kintz, (Keintz)	Joseph Smith
	George Rittlemyer	Henry Wilstock
	Philip Kautz	Henry Rumfeld
		George Hyatt, Fifer

ENLISTED BY LIEUT. JOUN LOHRA, (LORAH).

Thomas Kimmel, (Kemmell)	Jacob Miller	Henry Hargeroder, (Hargeroder)
Anthony Miller	Frederick Heller, Serjt.	Michael Growley
Joseph Hook	Andrew Gorr, (Gore)	Frederick Sollers, Corpl.
Jacob Miley	William Speck, Corpl.	Nicholas Frey

ENLISTED BY LIEUT. CHRISTIAN MYERS.

Jacob Kerns, (Kearns)	Jacob Ruppert	William Litzinger, Serjt.
Simon Rinehart, (Reinhart)	Nicholas Keyser	Fredk. Downey, (Tawney)
Mathias Boyer, (Byer), Corpl.	John Welty	William Cunius, (Cunnius)
	John Summers	James Smith
	Michael Huling	Peter Finley, Drummer
	John Eyssell	

ENLISTED BY ENSIGN MARTIN SHUGART.

John Smith	William Kraft	Henry Smith
John Bartholomew Deitch, (Dych)	Joseph Williams	John Stricker, Cadet
	Henry Spengle	Peter Segman

A List of Recruits belonging to the German Regiment. Commanded by Lieut. Colonel Weltner. White Plains, Sept. 5th, 1778.

NAMES.	TIME OF SERVICE.	NAMES.	TIME OF SERVICE.
Johns Kendrick	3 yrs	William Johnston	do
James Champness	War	John Richards	do
George Buch	3 yrs	Albert Hendricks	9 mos
Adam Mussler	do	Philip Bates	do
William Vincent	do	George Arnold	do
Stepen McGrough	do	Adam Mattrit, fifer	War
William Neving	War	Michael Smith, drummer	War
James Woolford	3 yrs	John Malady	do
James Stiles	War	Thomas Mackall	do
Pearer Batolomey	do	Charles Fulham	do
Richard Hazlip	3 yrs	John Hughmore	do
Robert Porter	do	Thomas Hutchcrofft	do
William Mummard	War	John Wade	do
Hugh McKoy	do	Alexander Smith	do
John Ammersley	do	Frederick Shoemaker	do
John Stanton	do	James Johnston	do
John Bennet	do	Casimir Hill	3 yrs
John Roach	do	Tomas Mahony	do
Benj. Elliott	do	John Smadern	do
Cornelius Quinlin	3 yrs	Jacob Dolton	do
Philip Fitzpatrick	9 mos	John Timhen	do
Francis Carns	3 yrs	Michael Hardman	do
Charles Jones	War	Henry Ferrins	do
Samuel Barts	War	James Dyer	3 yrs
Mathias Smith	do	Henry Fisher	do
William Rider	do	Jacob Alexander	do
William Malinia	do	Christian Kepplinger	9 mos
Benj. Cole	do	Philip Kinkel	do
Timothy Cahill	do	Thomas Polehouse	do
Robert Smith	do	Abraham Miller	do
Cornelius Vaughan	do	Bernhard Ridenhour	do
James Murphy	do	Levy Aaron	3 yrs
Christian Castner	do	Moses McKinsey	do
William Pope	do	Joshua McKinsey	do
John Fennell	do	Jacob Moser	do

NAMES.	TIME OF SERVICE.	NAMES.	TIME OF SERVICE.
Jacob Kauffman	3 yrs	Richard O'Quin	War
Thomas Proctor	do	James Ashyey	do
Richard Gaul	do	James Smith	do
John Shivey	do	Thomas Rowlands	9 mos
Thomas Halfpenny	do	George Bantz	do

REMARKS.

Thomas Hazelwood	War	on Furlough
Richard Hopkins	9 mos	died 7 July
Christn. Mumma	do	Died July 27th, '78
William White	War	Was a Deserter from Carolina
James Connoway	3 yrs	Ditto of Coy. Chambers
Thomas Holdup	War	Ditto of Carolina
Mathias Custgrove	3 yrs	Deserted
John Waldon	do	ditto
Andrew Shuler	War	ditto
John Stout	do	ditto
Robert Barnet	do	sick, absent
George Kephard	3 yrs	Deserted
Edward Connoly	do	Taken by the Virginia Artillery
Frederick Stone	do	Given up to the Laboratory
John Weeguel	do	Left at Frederick Town

MISCELLANEOUS.

Jacob Myers, Discharged 20 July	Peter Bartholomay
Henry Smith, " 15 Aug	Albert Henricks
David Mumma, " 20 Puly	Thos. Mahoney
Corpl. Wm. Krofft, " 26 "	Chris. Mummard
John Emersly	Thos. Machall
Adam Musler	Jas. Tomey, Discharged July 26
John Henrick	John Viebler
Stephen McGraw	John Weegul
Hugh McCaw, (or Koy)	

ENLISTMENTS FOR 3 YEARS, ALL, IN CAPT. MICHAEL BAYER'S COMPANY.

Edward Bairford, Enlisted June 19th, 1780. Joined the Regiment at Northumberland	Dineas Doron, (Dinnis Dorah), Enlisted June 26th, 1780
Michael Rightmyer, (Right Myer), Enlisted Feb. 1st, 1780	George Silver, Enlisted March 31st, 1780
Charles Lago, Enlisted April 1st, 1780	John Rogers " April 10th, 1780
	John Nevet, " April 13th, 1780

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

The German Battalion has received very inadequate attention in the past. The data necessary to compile the present article had to be gathered from a great variety of sources. Some of it was found in formerly private collections now part of the records of the Society of the Cincinnati in Maryland and of the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland.

Much of the basic information about creation, recruiting, organization and composition of the German Battalion was located in the official state publications of the archives of Maryland and Pennsylvania. In the *Archives of Maryland* the pertinent source material is found mainly in volume XVIII but also in volume XVII.

Particular thanks are due Colonel Rieman Steuart, for many years Secretary, and now Secretary Emeritus, of the Society of the Cincinnati in Maryland. He compiled a list of officers of the German Battalion from the records of that society. His work *The Maryland Line in the Revolutionary War* proved invaluable.

F. Millard Foard, Esq., a friend of the writer, also contributed greatly to the compilation of the history of the German Battalion, especially in the matter of reconciling conflicting data and evaluating data drawn from many sources.

Among related works, the following were consulted in the preparation of the manuscript:

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