

## The Stawitzki Messages

The ciphertext of Stawitzki's message reporting on the execution of General Friedrich von Rabenau:

Funkstelle:	Abgang:	Funk-
Abs. Dienststelle: lps	Tag:     /     / 4	Spruch Nr.: :
	Zeit:	<b>122</b>
An:	Eingang:	
	Tag: 15 / 4 / 45	
Kr	Zeit: 0842	

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Kopf: 0803 - 198 -           QDF CRH -

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IGSIS QNIMG AXPED WZICA  
XQOUW OSEAK HKHFN FMHLZ  
QJMEX XDXTZ KANRL GILLF  
EFIZX OGWAD ELVPC ATAKF  
TAWDV DVPIV GIYXJ UTXOU  
MSGEI OHGCH PFCKI FGIUU  
CYDJG XLAUQ PMUYT PMSQF  
SWKNP ZBKNS MEMTV HFZKT  
OWNPN EEAUV KHDNP UMDBU  
LUADI NPSTC DHFGS EEZ

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The message was composed at 08:03 on 15 April 1945. It carries the priority code "Kr" (urgent) and was transmitted 39 minutes later at 08:42 from the radio station at KL Flossenbürg.

The Enigma concentration camp key (KL-Maschinenschlüssel) for 15 April 1945 is given below together with a few of the message keys for this day. The message key for message Nr. 122 is indicated in red.

### Enigma Keys for: 15.04.1945

UKW       : B  
W/O       : 342 (with rotation)  
Stecker : BI, CP, DH, EO, FK, GL, MX, NR, QS, UV  
Rings     : NVG

### Message keys:

No:	Part:	1st.	CY	Indicator:	Start:	Stop:
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### W/O for 00:00 - 11:59: 342 / NVG

121	1t1	MAZPZ	90	HQN DNK	LBD LFT / RFT	SMQ
121	2t1	AUDZM	107	SOR TDV	AHN BMU / HMU	HQK
<b>122</b>		<b>IGSIS</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>QDF CRH</b>	<b>LPS LTT / OTT</b>	<b>OXI</b>
123		TIXLV		RBG HJN	CHR	DOS

15.04.1945 - Nr. 122 - IGSIS - 0803 - 198 - QDF CRH

AN GRUF X GLUECKS X PERSOENLIQ X MIT X D X B X U X  
 SOFORTIGE DURQGABE AN X RSHA X GRUF X MUELLER X PERSOENLIQ  
 X RABENAU X AUF MARSQ  
 CYOP  
 NAQ HIER DURQ AMERIKANISQE TIEFFLIEGER  
 ANGRIFF TOEDLIQ VERLETZT ABMARSQ HEUTE RIQTUNG X BERLIN X  
 STAWITZKI X

The concentration camp messages use a large number of abbreviations. 'X' is used as full stop and as the point in abbreviations. Furthermore, it is used to indicate quotation marks to set out the name of persons and places. The four letter group CYOP is an indication for the cipher operator to set one of the Enigma rotors (the leftmost wheel) to the letter O before he continues to decipher the rest of the message. Therefore this group is not part of the message text. Q is used to represent CH; SZ stands for ß – double-S ligature.

D X B X U = d. b. u. = der Bitte um — the request for

An Gruppenführer Glücks. Persönlich. Mit der Bitte um  
 sofortige Durchgabe an RSHA Gruppenführer Müller persönlich.  
 Rabenau auf Marsch nach hier durch amerikanische Tiefflieger  
 Angriff tödlich verletzt.  
 Abmarsch heute Richtung Berlin. Stawitzki.

To Gruppenführer Glücks. Private. With the request for  
 immediate announcement to RSHA Gruppenführer Müller in person.  
 Rabenau mortally injured by American low flying airplane  
 attack while on the way to here.  
 Leaving today in direction Berlin. Stawitzki.

The person signing the message, Stawitzki, is the person who most likely was ordered by Gruppenführer Heinrich Müller, the chief of Gestapo, to carry out the execution of General Friedrich von Rabenau. It is suspected that Stawitzki is identical with the former chief of Gestapo in Lemberg, SS-Hauptsturmführer Kurt Stawitzki. Archive research is currently being undertaken to try to further corroborate this hypothesis.

While at KL Flossenbürg Stawitzki sent two other messages. The first message, Nr. 14, was prepared on 3 April 1945 at 18:32 and transmitted by radio at 18:52. The second message, Nr.22, was written the next day at 14:40 but first transmitted late in the evening at 20:15. The Flossenbürg radio log shows that both messages were enciphered by the female radio operator, SS-Helferin Lilo Pickelmann. Unfortunately the available radio log for April 1945 stops with message Nr. 100. However, by comparing the handwriting of message Nr. 122 with other messages enciphered by known operators it turns out that this message has been enciphered by Lutz, the chief of Flossenbürg's communication unit.

Funkstelle: sxb	Abgang:	Funk-
Abs. Dienststelle: za6	Tag: / / 4	Spruch Nr.: <b>14</b>
	Zeit:	
<hr/>		
An: doi qsl? dői	Eingang:	
-qrx - - doi qsl	Tag: 3 / 4 / 45	
doi qrt?	Zeit: 1852	

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Kopf: 1832 - 248 - YPA JRM -

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LRCTF NVOXO IBHLL FRBVA  
 XMUUI DYTAAZ MGVNH EJEIP  
 VEPYF IYAAA LFQMR WFSTF  
 KAWOY OBBIK BBTUF CMOZD  
 UHXAX BSXXS QYVON VSKEP  
 CLDBI LAXQU XIFRH LGYRV  
 LITNJ ILRSR WWRNA CCXXM  
 ZROJX TEEHV MINEP YDEZH  
 NKDYZ DCYIM TDOYU NXBUM  
 WJBLR USWJD ZWVAE GZZSS  
 FKKNB XQAJZ MASJT VDLNX  
 VJZCZ AJVYJ XTDMY URJYL  
 ECDSW XPC

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The Enigma concentration camp key (KL-Maschinenschlüssel) for 3 April 1945 is given below together with a few of the message keys for this day. The message key for message Nr. 14 is indicated in red.

**Enigma Keys for: 03.04.1945**

UKW : B  
 W/O : 423 (with rotation)  
 Stecker : AN, BX, CU, DW, EV, FT, GK, HP, IQ, JR  
 Rings : LBS

**Message keys:**

No:	Part:	1st.	CY	Indicator:	Start:	Stop:
		group				

**W/O for 12:00 - 17:29: 342 / SLB**

12	1t1	NJHCE	122	IUJ	GTK	FRE	FWA	/	LWA	LBQ	
12	2t1	YFBKT		GRM	TZD	FPV			FQO		
13	1t1	HDCTD	146	BRD	AVW	HOU	HOU	/	NUO	NXZ	
13	2t1	ZEQOT		DQA	SUZ	HMS			HON		
<b>14</b>		<b>LRCTF</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>YPA</b>	<b>JRM</b>	<b>SXB</b>	<b>TXB</b>	<b>TDE</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>ZDE</b>	<b>ZHP</b>

The message key for Nr. 14 has a small problem. From the indicator YPA JRM the decoded message key is: SXB. However, the message itself has been enciphered on the wheel setting: TXB.

03.04.1945 - Nr. 14 - LRCTF - 1832 - 248 - YPA JRM

BETR X SONDERHAEFTL X LIEDIG X VORG X BEKANNT X  
 SS X OBERSTURMF X SCHRAY X U X KANZLEI ANGESTELLTE  
 X KNAPPE X TREFFEN IN DEM NAEQSTEN TAGEN ZWEQS  
 ABSQLIESZEN DER VERNEHMUNG DES O X G X DORT EIN  
 CYZA  
 IQ BITTE UM GEEIGNETE UNTERSTUETZUNG U X FUER  
 UNTERBRINGUNG BESORGT ZU SEIN X I X A X  
 STAWITZKI X STAWITZKI X

VORG X = Vorg. = probably Vorgehen

O X G X = o. G. = oben Genannte

I X A X = i. A. = Im Auftrag

Betreff Sonderhäftling Liedig. Vorg. bekannt SS-Obersturmbannführer Schray und Kanzlei Angestellte Knappe treffen in den nächsten Tagen zwechs abschließen der Vernehmung des oben Genannte dort ein. Ich bitte um geeignete Unterstützung und für Unterbringung besorgt zu sein.  
 Im Auftrag. Stawitzki.

Special prisoner Liedig is Lieutenant Commander Franz Maria Liedig.

Funkstelle:	Abgang:	Funk-
Abs. Dienststelle: eio	Tag: / / 4	Spruch Nr.:
	Zeit:	24
An: kl6	Eingang:	
	Tag: 4 / 4 / 45	
	Zeit: 2015	

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Kopf: 14.40 - 2t1 - 1t1 - 244 - MPZ HOP -

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TZWCM ASIRZ VRDDE JWFQT  
 JRVJA MLFTE QEBKE YFHLH  
 BKXPX ACGXF QNZXB MJVZI  
 CYQMC NYJBD TJZEV NKQLV  
 PIOIP RHNAS QNCDN TTXCP  
 ZGUCA VTRIE UXAWB BWKZU  
 AEFQD HXXOP WJSOQ RMNYG  
 NCPNA YKMZE PYWSX SQWIG  
 RKKSE MDISY YWZUV NRCWF  
 TPXLB PGDKX SFDXK VKNGP  
 AKTKB SPSRV PSRTJ DLCYC  
 XDDKI KAMXQ SJXQQ WEGPG  
 AXKA

Funkstelle:	Abgang:	Funk-
Abs. Dienststelle: gao	Tag: / / 4	Spruch Nr.:
	Zeit:	24
An:	Eingang:	
	Tag: 4 / 4 / 45	
	Zeit: 2015	

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Kopf: 14.40 - 2t1 - 32 - NLD DCK -

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HDGAY LERZZ YXFYL FUCFT  
 LAYXJ QEEYV OM

**Enigma Keys for: 04.04.1945**

UKW : B  
 W/O : 245 (with rotation)  
 Stecker : AM, BN, CO, DI, EL, QV, RW, SX, TZ, UY  
 Rings : ADT

**Message keys:**

No: Part: 1st. CY Indicator: Start: Stop:  
 group

**W/O for 12:00 - 17:29: 524 / TAD**

24	1t1	TZWCM 140	MPZ HOP	EIO ENC / KNC KRY
24	2t1	HDGAY	NLD DCK	GAO GBU
25		IMIXB 122	OKF GSH	BGQ BLR / HLR HNT
26	1t1	ZLHJU 131	MJK WYR	DNS DSX / KSX KWC
26	2t1	YENET	HMU TYT	EOV EQF
27		QPKRB	TCL TRA	FBQ GFP

28 RQNTB LUO CBB HGD HLQ

04.04.1945 - Nr. 24 - TZWCM - 1440 - 2tle - 1tl - 244 - MPZ HOP

X RSHA X ROEM X VIER X SS X STAF X HUPPKOTHEN X  
 TEL X AQT NULL VIER FUENF NEUN SIEBEN X STRIQ  
 NEUN AQT X ANORDNUNG KDT X BUQENW X SONDER UND  
 SIPPENHAEFTL X ZUM X KDS X REGENSBURG X  
 CYKL  
 DEM TRANSP X ENTNOMMEN X MUELLER LIEDIG X GEHRE X  
 NAQ X FLOSZENBUERG X OSTUF X VALENTIN X HIER  
 VERNEHMUNGEN GEHEN WEITER X

04.04.1945 - Nr. 24 - HDGAY - 1544 - 2tl - 32 - NLD DCK

DURQSQRIFTEN DURQ KURIER X STAWIZKI X

ROEM = Römisch =roman, indicate that the following numbers are roman numbers.

STAF = Staf. = Standartenführer

KDT = Kdt. = Kommandant

KDS = KdS = Kommandeur der Sicherheitspolizei/SD

OSTUF = Ostuf. = Obersturmbannführer

RSHA IV. SS-Standartenführer Huppkothen (sic). Tel. 804597-98.

Anordnung Kommandant Buchenwald. Sonder- und Sippenhäftlingen zum KDS Regensburg. Dem Transport entnommen Müller, Liedig, Gehre nach Flossenbürg. Obersturmbannführer Valentin hier. Vernehmungen gehen weiter. Durchschriften durch Kurier.

Stawizki (sic).

Special prisoners Müller and Gehre are Josef Müller and Hauptmann (Captain) Ludwig Gehre. Captain Gehre was executed by hanging together with Admiral Wilhelm Canaris, General Hans Oster, Heereschefrichter (Chief Army Judge) Dr. Karl Sack and pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer in the courtyard at KL Flossenbürg in the early morning on 9 April 1945. Josef Müller was transferred to Dachau where he survived the end of the war.

## Version:

Updated on 25 July 2007

Corrected the meaning of the abbreviation “D X B X U X” (d. b. u.) which was previously thought to stand for “durch Boten und” but which has now been firmly established to mean “der Bitte um”. In these messages there is a frequent usage of the abbreviation “M X D X B X U X W X” (m. d. b. u. w.), which stands for “Mit der Bitte um Weiterleitung” — with request for forwarding.