

HENLLE CAMP

WW1

Admiral Von Reuter

Scapa Flow

Prisoner of War Camp

Robert Graves – Poet

Mr Baron – Guard at Camp

ADDITIONAL WW1 HISTORY

Admiral Ludwig Von Reuter was the person responsible for the sinking of the German Fleet at Scapa Flow in 1919.

This is correspondence between him and a Mr Baron who was a guard at Oswestry POW camp where he was a prisoner

ADMIRAL VON REUTER LEAVES ENGLAND.

Admiral von Reuter and the officers and men who scuttled the German Fleet at Scapa Flow arrived at Hull on Thursday from Donington Hall, en route for Wilhelmshaven. Their departure was delayed by the late arrival of other contingents from Oswestry. Two German ships lay off Riverside Quay to receive them, and Admiral von Reuter was the first to embark. He immediately retired to the saloon.

Interviewed a moment later, he swung round in the chair and ejaculated, "What do you want?" "Just your last words," the press representative ventured. "I have nothing at all to say," he snapped. "Not even good words for your treatment at Donington?" "No," the Admiral abruptly responded.

Derby Daily Telegraph 30 January 1920



A group of RWF Officers at Henlle Park Camp Gobowen Shropshire September 1917. Robert Graves (the poet) can be seen second on the left

ADMIRAL VON REUTER.

Admiral von Reuter was on Thursday removed from Park Hall Camp, Oswestry, to Donnington Hall, being taken to Shrewsbury in a closed motor-car. He was accompanied by the commandant of the German officers' internment camp and German servants who have been attending him at the Park Hall Camp.

This is the first time since scuttling that he has been separated from his staff, who still remain at Oswestry.

Hull Daily Mail 04 July 1919

ADMIRAL AND CREWS ARRIVE NEAR OSWESTRY.

HOOTED BY THE WOMEN OF THE PLACE.

Admiral von Reuter and his comrades on Tuesday detrained at Gobowen, two miles from Oswestry. There were two trains, each carrying 30 officers and 400 men, closely guarded by a strong escort of Gordon Highlanders. Von Reuter was motored to Park Hall Camp, where he is under close arrest.

The men were marched through the village to Hendle Camp, adjoining Park Hall Camp, 10 minutes from Gobowen, still led by their officers and under strong local guards of the Royal Defence Corps, who reinforced the Highlanders. Their attitude was defiant and arrogant.

They marched like haughty victors, singing and whistling, till brought to their senses by women of Gobowen, proud women of Shropshire, who hooted and booed and shook their fists at the insolent Germans.

Western Gazette 27 June 1919



An Bord Linienschiff "Schurwig Holstein",
Wilhelmshaven, 8. März 28.

On board the Warship Schurwig Holstein
Wilhelmshaven. 8 March 28

Dear Mr Baron,

Thank you for your kind letter of Oct 29 that I feel that I must answer.

I was very surprised to receive a letter from you congratulating me on my appointment
as Chief of the German Navy.

This has given me great pleasure and I thank you most heartily.

I was amused at you sending me the old Prisoner of War form.

It reminds me of the bad old days of conflict

Dear Mr Baron we were never angry at Camp E3 at Oswestry.

On the contrary everyone was most obliging as possible and that we always appreciated.

What has become of Colonel Picot?

You write "Let us hope such days may never occur again". I sincerely hope not!

But we Germans do not like the unreasonable Peace Terms imposed on us.

Such terms do not make for lasting peace!

Thank you for the picture of the Garden of Remembrance.

For you for kind memories I thank you most heartily!

Yours sincerely

der Prinz
Vizekap.
Vizeadmiral
und Flottenchef.

PRISONERS OF WAR CAPTURED IN MILITARY OR NAVAL OPERATIONS, AND CIVILIANS. Form I.B.
1 (Revised).

[Form to be completed without delay in respect of each Prisoner of War, if possible, at his first Place of Internment. When completed it should be transmitted in original to the Prisoners of War Information Bureau, 49, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C. The entries on the back of the form (Part II) should be completed by the Prisoner of War himself.]

For use of P.W.I.B.
A. Lorenzi J.
Admiral von Reuter
25.6.19

PART I.

(Portion of the Form to be filled up by O.C. Place of Internment.)

Place of Internment _____
(at which the form is completed)
Date _____

General No.	Surname of Prisoner.	Christian Names in full.
	<i>Von Reuter</i>	<i>Ludwig</i>

[This is the Serial No. given to the Prisoner in the Register of the Place of Internment at which the form is completed.]

* If the Prisoner has been taken off a ship, the name of the ship should be given.

* Place of Capture *Scapa Flow*
Date of Capture *21.6.1919*
Date of Internment _____
From whom received _____

Was the Prisoner captured in Military or Naval Operations?

Height, ft. in.	Weight, lbs.	Complexion	Hair	Eyes	Marks (if any).
<i>5 1/2</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>fair skin</i>	<i>grey</i>	<i>bram</i>	<i>Keine</i>

Nature of wounds (if any): _____
[After the description it should be stated whether the wound (s) is (are) serious, etc., or slight.]

Special observations: _____

Personal effects (if any) to be enumerated: _____

For use of P.W.I.B.
Entered _____

Signature _____

Oct. 1919

**PRISONERS OF WAR CAPTURED IN NAVAL OR MILITARY OPERATIONS,
AND CIVILIANS.
PART II.**

Portion of the form to be filled up by the Prisoner of War himself, if possible, otherwise at his dictation.

Entries should be legibly written.

Dieser Teil des Formulars ist wo möglich von dem Kriegsgefangenen selbst auszufüllen. Im Falle seiner Unfähigkeit soll das Ausfüllen nach seinem Diktat erfolgen. Bitte, recht deutlich schreiben!

1.	(a) Familienname. Surname.	(b) Vornamen. (Bloße Initialbuchstaben sind nicht genügend.) Christian Name (in full).	2.	Wann geboren? Date of Birth?
3.	(a) Dienstgrad (Rangstufe). Rank.	(b) (1) Regiment, (bezw. Bataillon) oder sonstige Abteilung. Truppenteile der Reserve usw. sind von aktiven Teilen genau zu unterscheiden. Bayerischen Truppenteilen ist die Abkürzung: Bayr. vorzusetzen. (2) Name oder sonstige Bezeichnung des Schiffes (bezw. Boots), oder Nummer der Division. Unit. (Reserve and Bavarian Units are to be specially designated.)	4. Gefangengenommen: Place and Date of Capture: (a) Wo? (b) Wann?	
			(c) Regimentsnummer. No. of Regt.	(d) Bataillonnummer. No. of Battal'n.
			(e) Sp. (bezw. Est., Batt.) nummer. No. of Co., Sqdn., Bty.	(f) Erkennungsnummer. Identification No.
5.	Ob zum Aktiv, Reserve, Ersatzreserve, Landwehr, Seewehr, oder Landsturm gehörig: State whether with the Colours or in the Reserve:		6. Staatsangehörigkeit: Nationality:	
7.	Beruf (Stand): Occupation:		7. (a) Name des Schiffes auf dem Sie bei Gefangennahme als Zivilperson tätig waren. (Nur für Seefahrende.) Name of the Ship on which the Prisoner of War was last employed. (For Seafarers only.)	
8.	Religion:			
9.	(a) Ortshaf. City, Township, Village.	(b) Staat. Kingdom, Duchy, etc.	(c) Provinz, Regierungsbezirk oder Kreis. Administrative Divisions.	
Es wird nach möglichst genauen Angaben verlangt! Full particulars are required				
Auch im Falle des früheren Absterbens der betreffenden Person sind Rubriken 10, 11 u. 12 anzufüllen. All paragraphs to be completed, even if persons referred to are dead.	10. Vater (Father)	(a) Voller Name: Full Name:	(b) Beruf (Stand): Occupation:	(c) Wohnungsort: Residence:
	11. Mutter (Mother)	(a) Nur Vorname(n): Christian Names:	(b) Maiden Name:	(c) Place of Origin:
	12. Ehefrau (Wife)	(a) Nur Vorname(n): Christian Names:	(b) Maiden Name:	(c) Place of Origin:
	13. Sind Sie Witwer? Widower?	Wer unverheiratet ist, hat bei Rubrik 12 (a) das Wort: Unverheiratet aufzuschreiben. Unmarried Prisoners of War must enter the word Unmarried in § 12 (a).		
14. Voller Name, Art der Verwandtschaft und genaue Privatadresse des (der) Nächsterwandten: Next-of-kin of the Prisoner:				Verwandtschaft. (Relation ship.)

15. Genaue Privatadresse des Bräutigams oder der Braut. (Nicht die Feldadresse angeben.) Es handelt sich (beson...

Ludwig von Reuter

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Ludwig von Reuter (9 February 1869 – 18 December 1943) was a German admiral during World War I, who commanded the Imperial German Navy's High Seas Fleet when it was interned at Scapa Flow at the end of the war. On 21 June 1919 he ordered the scuttling of the fleet to prevent the British from seizing the ships.

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Early life

Reuter was born in Guben into a Prussian military family. His father, a colonel in the Prussian army, died during the Franco-Prussian War of 1870. In 1885, he became a cadet in the Imperial German Navy at the instigation of his mother.

Military career

A midshipman by the age of 17, he was promoted to sub-lieutenant in 1888. By 1910, he was a captain, commanding the heavy cruiser SMS *Yorck*.^[1]

World War I

Two months after the outbreak of World War I, he was made captain of the battlecruiser SMS *Derfflinger*, which he also commanded during the Battle of Dogger Bank. In September 1915, he became Commodore and commanding officer of the Second Scouting Group of five light cruisers (SMS *Stuttgart*, SMS *Hamburg*, SMS *München*, SMS *Stettin*, SMS *Frauenlob*), leading the group during the Battle of Jutland. Promoted to Rear Admiral in November 1916, he was placed in command of the Fourth Reconnaissance Group, a fleet of six light cruisers including his flagship SMS *Königsberg*. He commanded the group during the mine sweeping operation that led to the

Ludwig von Reuter



Born	9 February 1869 Guben, Prussia
Died	18 December 1943 (aged 74) Potsdam, Germany
Allegiance	 German Empire
Service/branch	 Kaiserliche Marine
Years of service	1885–1920
Rank	Admiral
Battles/wars	World War I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Battle of Dogger Bank ■ Battle of Jutland ■ Second Battle of Heligoland Bight ■ Scuttling of the German fleet in Scapa Flow



An Bord Kreuzschiff „Ludwig Kolbein“,
Wilhelmshaven, 8. März 28.

Ihr geehrter Herr Baron!

Ihre sehr liebenswürdigen Zeilen vom
29. Oktober sollen nicht unbeantwortet
bleiben. - Sie können sich denken, daß ich
sehr erfreut war, von Ihnen einen Brief
zu bekommen, und Quäntchen zu
meiner Erinnerung zum Aufbruch der
schönen Flotte. Ich habe mich aber sehr
daran gefreut und danke Ihnen herzlich.

Es hat mir viel Spaß gemacht, daß Sie
mir das alte Formular von P. O. W. a Zeit
Jugend auch haben. Es erinnert mich auch an
alle, böse Zeiten! Ihnen, sehr geehrter
Herr Baron, haben wir niemals im Lager
Ordnung E. 3. gegönnt; im Gegenteil, Sie

wenn ja so entgegen kommen und wie möglich,
und das haben wir immer gerne anerkannt.
Was mag aus dem Oberst Priest geworden
sein?

Bei Abschieden: hoffentlich kommen so viele
Tage wie damals nie wieder. Ich will
es auch nicht hoffen! Aber man hätte
mit Deutschen nicht diesen unerböt
schlimmen, dem Frieden nicht dienenden
'Friedens'-Taktik auflegen dürfen!

Für das Bild von Garden of Remembrance
vance' meinen besten Dank!

Kochmal für Ihr freundliches Geden
ken aufrichtigst dankend bin ich mit
ergebenen Grüßen

der Ihrige

Oldenkamp.
Vizeadmiral
und Flottenchef.

TO BURN CAMP.

Nottingham
Evening Post
23 July 1919

WARNING TO PLOTTING HUN PRISONERS.

The trouble which recently occurred among the German prisoners at Park Hall Camp is not the only cause for anxiety occasioned by the custody of these unwelcome visitors, especially since the incursion of the men from Scapa Flow.

Recently it came to the knowledge of the military authorities that a well-organised plot was afoot for burning down a number of the huts in the German compounds. The German officers who were responsible for the conduct of their men have been summoned before the camp authorities and informed that if anything of this sort occurs no facilities will be provided for the housing of the men whose huts were destroyed, and that they will have to sleep and live out of doors so long as they remain in the camp.

Restlessness has distinctly increased since the signing of peace. Several of the prisoners have become very restive under their continued restraint, and it is felt in many quarters that with this cause for anxiety it would be well that the rules applying to the conduct of the prisoners in the compounds should be very rigorously enforced, and, if necessary, considerably increased in severity. There are about 12,000 prisoners in the Oswestry compounds of Henlle Camp, Fernhill Camp, and Park Hall Camp, and messages are conveyed from the officers to the men in parcels, which the German officers are constantly throwing over from their compounds into the compounds of the men. Most of the trouble (says the *Telegraph*) is attributed to the officers of the scuttled fleet who came from Scapa Flow.

ADMIRAL REUTER MOBBED.

HOSTILITY IN THE STREET AT OSWESTRY.

Admiral von Reuter, who gave the order to scuttle the German Fleet at Scapa, had an unpleasant experience at Oswestry, to-day. He was recognised when he called at a local bank, and when he was leaving the building he was mobbed and hit on the cheek with a rotten egg, and otherwise assaulted as he entered his car.

Yorkshire Evening Post 28 June 1919