

Capt William P. Allman
PO Box 26
Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506

APR 17 1989

Capt Allman

I well remember the purchase of the Von Ribbentrop items which you asked about during our telephone conversation of April 5, 1989. I obtained the items, which included two firearms; a System Mauser Broomhandle with matching stock, serial number 342 and a 1908 1st issue P.08 Luger, serial number 8989 with holster, tool, and extra magazine from Col Howard E. Goldsmith (USA Retired) in January 1980. Col Goldsmith, whom I had met through mutual membership in various veterans groups, had taken the guns from the personal effects of Joachim Von Ribbentrop in May 1945.

When I purchased the items from Col Goldsmith, he furnished me with a signed card (dated Jan 24, 1980) as a proof of purchase. A few weeks later he provided me with a signed letter (dated Feb 12, 1980) further verifying the authenticity of the items. Later, when the guns were sold (to Harry G. Akers of Carrollton, Texas), the documents were included with the guns. I understand that the originals were later lost in the confusion following the bankruptcy and subsequent suicide of one of the guns subsequent owners, Robert B. Pope. I verify that the photocopies which you sent me are true copies of the original card/letter given me by Col Goldsmith.

I hope this information is of help to you.

I Ben E. Curtis formerly of Duncanville, Texas and currently of Mesquite, Texas verify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

signed,

Ben E. Curtis

4/17/89