CATALOG DESCRIPTION

A World War II relic of historic proportions, a gold Andreas Huber reversible wristwatch, given to Adolf Hitler himself most likely on April 20, 1933, when on his 44th birthday the dictator was named with former Chancellor Paul von Hindenburg, an honorary citizen of Bavaria – the first such honor in the history of Germany.

This incredible watch has an unwavering direct provenance from a French soldier who seized the watch as 'spoils of war' on Friday May 4, 1945, when his unit became the first Allied force to arrive at Hitler's retreat at Berchtesgaden in the mountains of Bavaria. The watch and its history have been researched by some of the world's most experienced and respected watchmakers and military historians, all of whom have concluded that it is authentic and indeed belonged to Adolf Hitler.

The watch carries a movement originally made by LeCoultre, and a case made by a subcontractor, the assembled combination being reversible, allowing the entire case to be rotated 180 degrees to protect the watch face when desired or simply to display the engraving. The body supporting the rotating case bears a Swiss "key" hallmark and a German gold hallmark. This indicates Swiss manufacture of the frame which was then exported to Germany where it was again hallmarked as "gold" as required by law. The yellow gold case is numbered "2951", the white gold support frame is numbered "2939". Clearly, the frame was subcontracted to another Swiss manufacturer, probably in La Chaux de Fonds. The close difference between the serial numbers seems to indicate very similar dates of manufacture. The watch is fitted with a black lizard strap with an 18K gold pin buckle. The mechanical movement is a hand-wound LeCoultre caliber no. 410-11U, numbered "12755", manufactured by the LeCoultre establishment in December 1932. The dimensions of the watch are 23 x 38 mm. with the lugs, 23 x 33 mm. without the lugs, thickness 8 mm. The gross weight of the watch is 41.48 grams.

The front of the watch has a black dial bearing the name "HUBER" painted in black lacquer with applied indexes in gold and a "railway" design also painted all around the dial as well as around the second counter at six o'clock. Golden sword-shaped hour and minute hands are present.

The reverse of the watch links this piece directly to Adolf Hitler and the N.S.D.A.P. On the back of the yellow gold case appears a polychrome engraving, lacquered in red, white and black, presenting a swastika surmounted by an engraving of the first Nazi eagle (a "Reichsadler") and a mobile (or inclined) swastika surrounded by a wreath of oak leaves. Appearing below are two art deco initials "A H", lacquered black. This is a so-called negative execution in which previously hollowed-out letters have been filled with black lacquer. The swastika is surrounded by three dates: "20.4.89-30.1.33-5.3.33". The first date (20.4.89) corresponds to Hitler's date of birth in Braunau Am Inn, Austria. The second date (30.1.33) marks the date of his appointment as Chancellor of Germany, when Field Marshal Paul Von Hindenburg asked Hitler, leader of the NSDAP, to form a new German government. The third date (5.3.33) celebrates the date of the federal elections in Germany which gave Hitler access to full power.

This engraving is of exceptionally high quality, and its style points to its creation by an artisan subcontracted by Huber and already adept at N.S.D.A.P.-related engravings.

The watch was commissioned by the N.S.D.A.P. and assembled and engraved by the highly-respected German watch firm Andreas Huber, in Munich. The company was founded in 1856 and by 1912 Huber had become the official watch supplier to the Royal Court of Bavaria. Huber quickly became a must-have watch brand for all German officers. As such, the brand won the distinction of 'the Royal watch with luminous dial for military campaigns'. From 1913 to 1920, on the strength of its success, the brand opened several other boutiques in Berlin, Dusseldorf and Nuremberg. The brand's excellent reputation grew over the years as it supplied watches to public transport systems, various prestigious racing events, and to the 1936 Winter Olympics. The company even introduced a 'talking clock'.

From the 1930s, Huber developed several brands including Nautica and Secura, and marketed several other renowned brands under its own brand name. It is a documented fact that some major manufacturers including Universal Geneve, Movado, Cyma, and IWC all agreed to deliver high-end movements to Huber and sometimes even complete watches with dials already signed 'HUBER'. Huber assembled watches using these fine components from Swiss watchmakers – which is clearly the case in this example. Here, the movement was made by LeCoultre, the case by a Swiss contractor, and the watch frame, numbered and hallmarked, by a contractor in Switzerland. The maker of the frame is not identified but the frame was hallmarked in Switzerland by an organization of manufacturers. It was then shipped to Germany where it was again hallmarked for its gold content, as required by law. The dial may have been fabricated by Huber, or may have been "personalized" using a "blank" provided by a manufacturer.

Jaeger-LeCoultre advises it has no production records regarding this watch. No wartime documents can be obtained from Andreas Huber – their factory was bombed and subsequently burned down during World War II.

Before his appointment as chancellor in January 1933, Adolf Hitler had already received many gifts from friends, party members, German companies, and heads of state. From March 1933, having become Chancellor of Germany, gifts to Hitler poured in. The use of the first N.S.D.A.P. Reichsadler dates the watch to no later than 1934, when the "second pattern" political Reichsadler came into common use. It is doubtful that the use of this eagle for any purpose beyond official Nazi Party business would have been authorized at that time. It is therefore very likely that this watch was offered to Adolf Hitler by the hierarchy of the Nazi party or the S.A. following the 1933 elections or during the Bavarian citizenship ceremonies of April 20, 1933.

On May 4, 1945, about thirty French soldiers belonging to the Regiment de Marche du Tchad, a unit of the 2nd Armored Division commanded by the brilliant General Philippe Leclerc, stormed the Berghof, barely ahead of the American troops of the 3rd Armored Division. Among the members of this unit was Sergeant Robert Mignot who with his comrades quickly gained access to Hitler's secondary residence and the Eagle's Nest, both abandoned by all the occupants and guards. They also discovered the vast system of tunnels and bunkers under the house. This is probably where this watch - and other valuables - were found and taken away by the French as war souvenirs. Reports written at the time, contemporary documents and diaries, as well as statements from veterans, clearly show that these French soldiers certainly had ample time on the spot to hunt for any 'spoils of war' they could find, limited only by what they could carry in their backpacks. Of course, items marked with Hitler's name were considered the best prizes, and many of these historic relics have come to market in the intervening years. Sergeant Mignot returned to France with the watch and resold it over time to his cousin, our consignor's grandfather. It has remained in the exclusive possession of the Mignot family and that of our consignor since its discovery and has never been offered for sale before. Sergeant Robert Mignot's service record with the 2nd Armored Division is also fully documented with records, documents, photographs and a statement from a fellow soldier, with copies available to potential bidders. A detailed letter of provenance from Mignot's daughter is also present.

The watch is in exceptional condition. The watch has been examined by an expert intimately familiar with the movement installed and he has advised that it appears that only a cleaning to remove dried oil is required. He mentioned no other faults – as would be expected. The reptile band is frayed at one end. It can be kept or replaced, as desired.

Potential bidders are invited to request our fully-detailed, illustrated PDF document containing letters of provenance, a complete description of the watch, an appraisal and expertise by a world-renowned watch historian and auction consultant, multiple evidentiary photographs, excerpts of documents, period advertisements, a study of hallmarks, a comparative analysis of similar watches and related correspondence, Sergent Mignot's archives, as well as those documenting his presence at the Berghof, appraisals, and more. Printed copies of this voluminous document are available at a nominal cost.

While Hitler's correspondence, his silverware, and even his paintings and articles of his clothing and uniforms are regularly offered for sale, in only a few instances in a lifetime would one see a piece of Hitler's jewelry come up for auction. And a spectacular wristwatch, especially given to the dictator by his most ardent supporters, has never seen the light of day. It is an absolutely unique and important historical object. This is a rare opportunity for the discriminating collector to obtain one of the most important timepieces ever created.

Full description of the "Adolf Hitler Presentation Watch", as prepared by an expert in horology and auction expert.

Translated from the original in French, some grammatical corrections made for legibility only.

Prepared 21 January 2021



THE WATCH: A Reversible 18K Case by HUBER

THE WATCH: A Huber reversible men's watch from the 1930s, in 18k (750 thousandths) yellow gold on an 18k (750 thousandths) white gold frame. The watch bears a German gold hallmark: an imperial crown in the center of the sun and a hallmark in the shape of a key (Annex 1). The yellow gold case is numbered "2951", the white gold supporting frame is numbered "2939". Note that the association of a yellow gold case associated with a white gold frame is very rare, explaining the difference in numbering. Black lizard strap with 18k gold pin buckle. (750 thousandths). Mechanical movement with manual winding LeCoultre caliber no. 410-11U. (Annex 2) and numbered 12755, produced by the Manufacture LeCoultre in December 1932. Dimensions: 23 x 38 mm. with the lugs, 23 x 33 mm. without the lugs. Thickness: 8mm. Watch gross weight: 41.48 grams. The LeCoultre signature and technical information on the movement of the Adolf Hitler Presentation Watch has been erased so as to be replaced by the "A. HUBER" signature.

FRONT of the watch:

Dial signed "HUBER", painted in black lacquer (small gaps on the edges) with applied gold indexes (a "chemin de fer", or "railroad track" design) painted on the complete circumference of the dial as well as around the second counter at six o'clock. Gold sword-shaped hour and minute hands. It should be noted that black dials were very popular in the 1930s.





BACK of the watch: On the yellow gold background appears a polychrome engraving, lacquered red, white and black, presenting a swastika, surmounted by an engraving of the 1927 first pattern Reichsadler, bearing a few traits of the 1934 second pattern (Appendix 5). Below are two art deco initials "AH", black lacquered. Almost all gifts given to Adolf Hitler during the years of his regime were monogrammed in this manner, "AH". The swastika is inclined 45 degrees to the right, and is surrounded by three dates: "20.4.89- 30.1.335.3.33". The first date (20.4.89) indicates the birthdate of Adolf Hitler in Braunau Am Inn, Austria. The second date (30.1.33) marks the date of his appointment as Chancellor of Germany, when Field Marshal Paul Von Hindenburg (age 86) asked Adolf Hitler (43), leader of the NSDAP, to form the new German government. Hitler accepted and became Chancellor of Germany. The third date (5.3.33) celebrates the date of federal elections in Germany which allowed Adolf Hitler, despite less than a plurality of the votes cast (43.9%) and using political maneuvers, to gain full power. The swastika was adopted by the NSDAP when it was still only the German Workers' Party (DAP), and after 1920 it became the party's official emblem. The black cross represents combat, the white circle represents purity (i.e. the "Aryan race"), and the red represents social thought. (source: Wikipedia). This engraving was undertaken by experts in Germany, as mentioned above.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE HUBER WATCH COMPANY

In 1856, Andreas Huber opened his first store in Munich. In 1912, thanks to his daughter who maintained relations with a noble and wealthy clientele, he became the official supplier of watches to the Royal Court of Bavaria, which ordered several precious timepieces from him. Joseph Huber, from the second generation of the family, developed the business by offering the first pocket alarm clock. In addition, he created and improved a system for selling wristwatches to the military. Success was immediate and thanks to him, Maison Huber became a brand of must-have watches for the wrists of officers. As such, the brand won the distinction of "the Royal luminous dial watch for use in military campaigns." From 1913 to 1920, on the strength of its success, the brand opened several other boutiques in Berlin, Dusseldorf and Nuremberg. In 1920, the son of Joseph Huber's son, Andreas II, gave a more cultural turn to the brand by providing a literary, artistic and



musical environment. He created the luxury brand Urania in 1921. In addition, buses and trams were equipped with clocks supplied by L. Wolff Zigarren, made by Huber. The same year, the brand introduced the speaking clock broadcast by radio. Concurrently, Huber also supplied timepieces for sports competitions such as motor racing and horse racing (see ad) as well as scientific expeditions. From the 1930s, on, Huber developed several brands including Nautica and Secura, marketed several renowned brands, and certain large houses such as Universal



Genève, Movado, Cyma, IWC agreed to deliver high-end movements and sometimes even watches complete with dials already signed "HUBER" by these suppliers. (Annex 7). And in 1936, the firm was "consecrated" by the state with its appointment as official timekeeper of the Winter Olympics in GarmishPartenkirchen. During the war, many officers of the Wehrmacht, the Kriegsmarine and the Luftwaffe would be equipped with Huber watches with IWC or Lang & Sohne movements. In 1944, the factory was totally destroyed during a bombardment and with it disappeared all traces of its prior commercial and administrative activity. In 1946, the brand was reborn from its ashes with the opening of three stores. Today Maison Huber still exists, thanks to a network of boutiques across Germany and Switzerland. In 2002, the brand was bought by Bucherer (Sources: Wristwatches Editions Konemann; Horlogerie-Suisse.com; watch-wiki.net).

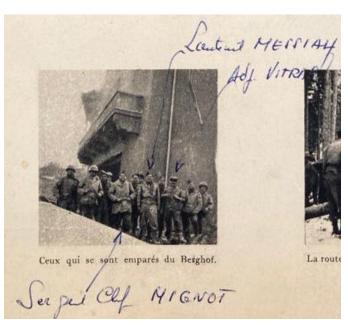
THE HISTORY OF THIS WATCH

It is very difficult to provide proof that this watch was worn by Adolf Hitler because there are apparently no photographs or film that could attest to it. Similarly, with the maker Huber's facilities having been totally destroyed by a bombardment in 1944, there is no proof of purchases or commercial transactions concerning this watch. But it is certain that the movement originated from LeCoultre, and it was assembled by Huber together with parts originating from other Swiss manufacturers as well. It was then expertly engraved in Germany by Huber to then be offered by members of the Nazi Party to Adolf Hitler.

HOW WAS IT DISCOVERED?



On May 4, 1945, about thirty French soldiers belonging to the Régiment de Marche du Tchad, a unit belonging to the 2nd Armored Division commanded by General Philippe Leclerc, stormed the Berghof, just ahead of the American troops [of the 3rd Infantry Division]. Among the members of this unit was Sergeant Robert Mignot who discovered with his comrades Adolf Hitler's second home [the Berghof], abandoned by all its occupants. Like other French soldiers who could not resist taking some symbolic souvenir war prizes from this place, Staff Sergeant Robert Mignot discovered this Reverso Huber watch and kept it with him all his life. It is indisputable that this officer



took part with about thirty French soldiers in the capture of the residence of Adolf Hitler and the Eagles' Nest. It is also certain, as filmed reports from the period and certain testimonies filmed after the war attest, that the French soldiers present on the spot had time to visit the premises and used a few objects stamped with the swastika and the initials "AH".

CONCLUSION

As a specialist in watchmaking and in conclusion, I give the opinion, in view of the foregoing, that: The movement (caliber 410-11 U) of this reversible watch signed "HUBER" left the LeCoultre workshops in 1932. This Huber watch was assembled (case number different from that of the frame) and was then personalized (markings on the movement plate and engraving) subsequently at the Andreas Huber company in Germany. The engraving, comprised of the German imperial eagle, the swastika and the initials, given its singularity, was executed in Germany. The exceptional condition of the watch and the freshness of the engraving are due to the fact that it has been kept in a safe for over 75 years.

It is therefore an authentic, period Huber presentation watch. Although the diversity of watches produced during the 1930s by Huber was considerable, there are no other known examples of such a reversible model in their collections. It is therefore probably a unique specimen. It is not possible to say categorically about the exact circumstances that led to the ordering of this Huber watch and its customization, but we can, in all likelihood, say that with regard to its career, conditions in which it was discovered and the place (an additional file develops the historical part of its discovery at the Berghof), that it certainly belonged to Chancellor Adolf Hitler. One of the hypotheses would be that the watch could have been offered to him on the occasion of an exceptional event such as the formalization of his party as a single party in July, 1933. Whether or not the person concerned wore this watch is another debate. Done the 21st of January A. F.—B. Independent Expert in Horology (Name and contact information will be given to registered bidders upon request).



PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL

MY CONCLUSIONS

As an independent specialist in watchmaking and in appraisals, I give my opinion, after analysis of this HUBER reversible watch in yellow gold and white gold, that:

- 1 The movement (caliber 410-11 U) of this reversible watch, later signed "HUBER", left the workshops of LeCoultre in 1932.
- 2 The engraving showing the Reichsadler's eagle from the first generation NSDAP, the swastika and the initials were engraved by talented, authorized experts in Germany.
- 3 The exceptional condition of the watch and the freshness of the engraving are due to the fact that it has been preserved in a safe for more than 75 years. It is therefore an authentic watch.
- 4 Although the diversity of watches produced during the 1930s by Huber was considerable, there are no other known copies of such a reversible watch in their collections. It is therefore probably a unique specimen. It is not possible to say categorically about the exact circumstances that led to the ordering of this Huber watch and its personalization, but one can determine with all likelihood, according to its history, the conditions in which it was discovered and the place (an additional file develops the historical part of its discovery at the Berghof), that it certainly belonged to Chancellor Adolf Hitler. The hypothesis of a gift of national or regional importance would correspond to the fact that it was offered to Chancellor Adolf Hitler during the event of April 20, 1933 or for his forty-fourth birthday during which he was named with Hindenburg, an honorary citizen of Bavaria a unique event in the history of Germany. Whether or not the person concerned wore this watch is another debate.

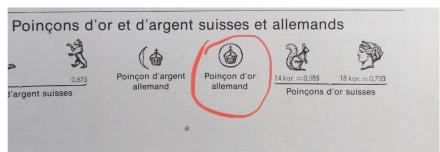
The appraisal of this historical watch is €1,000,000, /€1,500,000 Dated April 1, 2022 [Signed A.F.-B.] Independent watch specialist

[Mr. A.F.-B. is an internationally recognized expert in the researching, cataloging and sale of important and historic timepieces, and has served as a consultant to several major French auction houses and watch collectors worldwide. His name and contact information is available to registered bidders]

[Mr. F.-B. is an internationally recognized expert in the researching, cataloging and sale of important and historic timepieces, and has served as a consultant to several major French auction houses and watch collectors worldwide. His name and contact information is available to registered bidders]



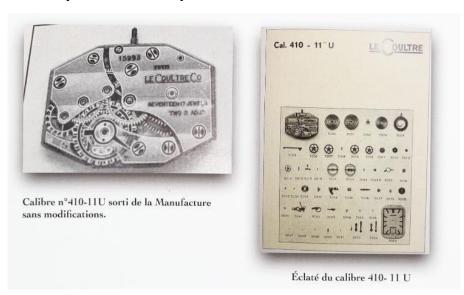
You can see in the center of the inside of the case back, the German gold hallmark, and at the bottom the hallmark in the shape of a key (of Geneva) with two figures. This last hallmark comes from the Swiss Federation of Associations of Manufacturers of Gold Watch Cases (F. Baumgartner) in La Chaux-de-Fonds. This hallmark was registered in Geneva on September 8, 1934.



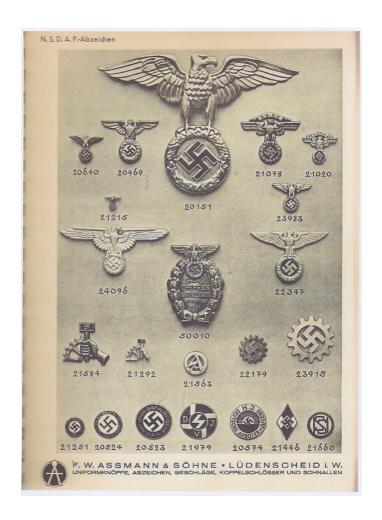
Extract from the reference book: "Les Montres-Bracelets Cent Ans d'Histoire" by H. Kahlert-R. Mühe and L. Brunner, published by Bibliothèque des Arts, Paris.

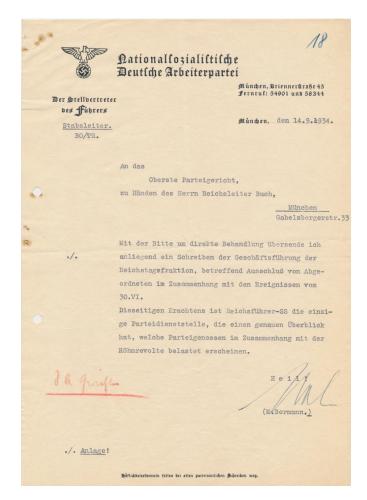


Mechanical movement, the manually-wound LeCoultre caliber no. 410-11U and numbered 12755, produced by LeCoultre in December 1932. It should be noted that the LeCoultre company name has been replaced by "A. HUBER" and that the indication of the number of jewels and the adjustments have also been erased.



Caliber no. 410-11U as it would leave LeCoultre, without modification. Illustrated parts list of the 410-11U movement.





Vendredi 4 mai. Au petit jour les unités sont à peu près casées au Nord de Bad Reichenhall, dans les fermes formant l'agglomération de Staufeneck - Mauthausen. Chacun essaie de prendre quelques heures de repos.

Depuis hier soir les colonnes de prisonniers - volontaires à vrai dire - ont décuplé de volume et elles s'étirent interminablement sur les routes.

Quelle revanche pour ceux qui ont connu 1940 !

Les premières heures de la matinée sont consacrées à des recherches de passages sur la Saalach, mais tous les gros ouvrages sont sautés sauf une passerelle qui permet aux Jeeps de passer.

Le Commandant Dronne et le Capitaine Piquet essaient de se frayer un passage mais les Américains dont Berchtesgaden n'était pas initialement l'objectif, semblent maintenant s'y intèresser et veulent nous le souffler. Ils ont des éléments qui viennent de pénètrer dans Bad Reichenhall et ont fait une quantité de prisonniers. D'autres ont atteint Salzbourg.

L'unité Amèricaine est la 3º Division U.S. avec laquelle nous avons travaillé entre Colmar et Neuf Brisach; elle amènage les voies d'accès sur le pont de chemin de fer qui est intact, mais ne semble pas vouloir le faire à notre intention.

Le Lieutenant-Colonel Barboteu est obligé de discuter pied à pied avec le Général O'Daniels qui consent à laisser passer quelques-uns de nos éléments à condition que nous n'empruntions pas la route directe, mais passions par Jettenberg.

Profitant de cette autorisation, le Sous-Groupement réussira à s'infiltrer dans les colonnes américaines en y créant d'ailleurs une assez belle pagaille, et à se trouver vers 16 heures à Bad Reichenhall. Le Commandant Dronne, parti avec un jumelage par la route de Jettenberg est arrêté au bout d'une dizaine de kilomètres par un pont coupé et ne peut plus progresser. Le Lieutenant-Colonel Barboteu s'est porté à sa hauteur. Le Lieutenant-Colonel de Guillebon arrive à Bad Rejchenhall et enjoint d'emboîter le pas aux Américains sur l'axe direct. Le restant du Sous-Groupement, aux ordres du Commandant Florentin, s'engouffre sur la grande route de Berchtesgaden et Bischoffswiesen contourne la ville par l'Ouest et y arrive vers 17 heures, quelques heures seulement après l'arrivée des Américains.

Mais ceux-ci, on ne saura sans doute jamais pourquoi, ont négligé l'Obersalzberg où sont construites les maisons d'Hitler et de Goering et au-dessus, le fameux "nid d'aigle".

Le Capitaine Touyeras du XI/64, qui a fait cette constatation, l'annonce au Colonel de Guillebon, et pendant que le Sous-Groupement s'installe au Sud de la voie ferrée, la Section Messiah de la 12th Cie escalade la fameuse route du Fuhrer, s'installe au Platterhof et lève les couleurs Françaises.

Dimanche 6 mai. L'occupation de l'Obersalzberg ne s'avère pas de tout repos.

Alors que le Sous-Lieutenant Catelain a réussi, avec une poignée d'hommes à aller planter les couleurs Françaises sur le Nid d'aigle d'Hitler, des "touristes" de tous poils - Français et Américains - commencent à mettre au pillage les caves de l'hôtel et les souterrains d'Hitler et de Goering.

Various creations from Maison Huber between 1930 and 1950 with movements issued by major Swiss makes such as IWC and Lange & Sohne.



[Signed] Melanie Didier APPENDIX 6



LE SENTIER, LE 22 juin 2017

Cher Monsieu Pour faire suite à votre visite à la Manufacture le mardi 6 juin 2017 concernant l'identification d'un garde-temps nous sommes en mesure de vous confirmer que sur la base des photos que vous nous avez montrées il s'agit effectivement d'un modèle Reverso. Le mouvement est un mouvement LeCoultre 410 ou 11U. Il porte le numéro 12755 et a été produit dans notre Manufacture en décembre 1932. Cependant, le mot LeCoultre initialement gravé sur ce demier a été effacé et remplacé par le nom A Huber. Cette transformation a été réalisée à posteriori, après que la montre ait quitté notre Manufacture. Par ailleurs, nous pouvons vous préciser que nous n'avons pas de trace d'un client A. Huber dans nos archives. Nous ne pouvons nous déterminer sur la gravure apposée au dos de la montre. Elle n'a en tous les cas pas été réalisée au sein de la Manufacture puisqu'à cette époque les établissements LeCoultre ne possédaient pas d'atelier de gravure. En espérant avoir répondu à votre demande, nous vous prions de croire, Cher Monsieur en l'assurance de nos salutations distinguées. DEPARTEMENT COMMUNICATION & MARKETING Mélanie Didier Responsable Patrimoine

Letter from Jaeger-LeCoultre (translated from the original French) 22 June 2017

"...To follow up on your visit to the factory on Tuesday June 6, 2017 concerning the identification of a timepiece, we are able to confirm that on the basis of the photos you have shown us it is indeed a Reverso model. The movement is a LeCoultre 410 or ITU movement. It bears the number 12755 and was produced in our factory in December 1932. However, the word LeCoultre originally engraved on it has been erased and replaced by the name A Huber. This transformation was carried out a posteriori, after the watch had left our factory. Furthermore, we can tell you that we have no trace of a client A. Huber in our archives. We cannot determine ourselves anything on the engraving affixed to the back of the watch. In any case, it was not produced within the factory since at that time the LeCoultre establishments did not have an engraving workshop..."

[Signed] Stephane Belmont

APPENDIX 6A



Le Sentier, le 27 novembre 2017

Cher Monsieur,

Pour faire suite à la rencontre du 14 novembre 2017 à Paris au cours de laquelle notre horloger a pu analyser la montre de votre client, vous trouverez ci-après les conclusions de nos recherches.

Gravure:

L'examen de la gravure ne nous permet pas de faire ressortir de nouveaux éléments. Nous vous rappelons qu'elle n'a en tous les cas pas été réalisée au sein de la Manufacture puisqu'à cette époque les établissements LeCoultre ne possédaient pas d'atelier de gravure. Il ne nous est pas possible de dater cette gravure.

Boîtier:

- Comme communiqué dans notre précédent courrier, nous ne sommes pas en mesure de retracer l'historique du boîtier car son numéro date d'une période pour laquelle nous ne possédons pas d'archives.
- Notre horloger a pu relever le numéro inscrit à l'intérieur du fond du boîtier portant la gravure. Il s'agit du n° 2951. Celui-ci diffère du numéro gravé sur le brancard, le n° 2939, alors que ces numéros devraient être identiques pour une pièce emboitée dans nos ateliers.
- Un poinçon en forme de clé avec un numéro à l'intérieur indique que le fond a été réalisé par un fournisseur externe, raison pour laquelle nous n'avons aucune archive à ce suiet.
- Nous avons relevé la présence à l'intérieur du fond d'un poinçon étranger pour l'or, représentant une couronne dans un soleil, et qui est le poinçon correspondant à l'Allemagne. On notera l'absence du poinçon des métaux précieux de la Confédération Suisse.
- Tous les modèles Reverso de nos collections font état du dépôt de brevet sous forme de gravure apposée à l'intérieur du fond. Nous n'avons pas trouvé trace de celle-ci dans le fond de la montre étudiée.

Manufacture Jaeger-LeCquitre Branch of Richemont International S.A.

Mouvement:

- Comme précisé dans notre demier courrier, le mouvement est un calibre LeCoultre 410 (également nommé 11"U). Il porte le numéro 12755 et a été produit en décembre 1932. Toutes les autres inscriptions d'usage telles que le nom du fabricant (LeCoultre), l'indication du pays (Swiss), le nombre de pierres (Fifteen 15 Jewels) et le réglage (Two 2 ADJS) ont été effacées et remplacées par une gravure avec le nom « A Huber ».
- Nous vous rappelons que nous n'avons pas trouvé de client A. Huber dans nos archives.

Cadran:

 La facture du cadran « Huber » ne correspond pas aux procédés de fabrication des modèles Reverso de l'époque. En effet les index sont des appliques rapportées, alors que les cadrans des Reverso étaient soit décalqués, soit frappés.

Compte tenu de la disparité des éléments constitutifs, de l'absence de nom de marque et de l'impossibilité de retracer l'histoire de cette montre sur la base de documents d'archives, nous ne sommes pas en mesure de vous délivrer un document d'authentification de cette montre. Pour les mêmes motifs, nous ne souhaitons pas acquérir cet objet.

Nous vous prions de croire, Cher Monsieur, en l'assurance de nos salutations distinguées.

Manufacture Jaeger-LeCoultre, Branch of Richemont International S.A.

Geofroy LEFEBVRE

Deputy Chief Executive Director

Stéphane BELMONT Maison Heritage & Rare Pieces Director

Institute (seger-te-counce, charlot of rechemons segen sections). These is downers of the first telescope of te

Letter from Jaeger-LeCoultre (translated from the original French) 27 November 2017

"Sir, To follow up on the meeting of November 14, 2017 in Paris during which our watchmaker was able to analyze your client's watch, you will find below the conclusions of our research.

Engraving: - Examination of the engraving does not allow us to bring out new elements. We remind you that in any case it was not produced within the Manufacture since at that time the LeCoultre establishments did not have an engraving workshop. It is not possible for us to date this engraving.

Case: As communicated in our previous letter, we are not able to trace the history of the case because its number dates from a period for which we have no archives. Our watchmaker was able to identify the number inscribed inside the case back bearing the engraving. This is no. 2951. This differs from the number engraved on the frame, no. 2939, whereas these numbers should be identical for a part fitted in our workshops. A key-shaped stamp with a number inside indicates that the bottom was made by an external supplier, which is why we have no records of this. We noted the presence inside the bottom of a foreign hallmark for gold - representing a crown in a sun, and which is the hallmark corresponding to Germany. Note the absence of the precious metals hallmark of the Swiss Confederation. All the Reverso models in our collections state the patent filing in the form of an engraving affixed to the inside of the case-back. We found no trace of it in the back of the studied watch.

Movement: - As specified in our last letter, the movement is a LeCoultre caliber 410 (also called 11U). It bears the number 12755 and was produced in December 1932. All other usual inscriptions such as the name of the manufacturer (LeCoultre) the indication of the country (Swiss), the number of stones (Fifteen 15 Jewels) and the setting (Two 2 ADJS) have been erased and replaced by an engraving with the name "A Huber". We remind you that we could not find an A. Huber client in our archives. Dial: The manufacture of the "Huber" dial does not correspond to the manufacturing processes of the Reverso models of the time. Indeed the indexes are applied, while the dials of the Reverso were either transferred or stamped. Given the disparity of the constituent elements, the absence of a brand name and the impossibility of tracing the history of this watch on the basis of archival documents, we are unable to provide you with an authentication document for this watch. For the same reasons, we do not wish to acquire this object. Please accept, Dear Sir, the assurance of our best regards. Manufacture Jaeger-LeCoultre, Branch of Richemont International S.A..."

[Signed] Geoffrey Lebvre, Deputy Chief Executive Director Stephane Belmont House Heritage & Rare Pieces Director

APPENDIX 6B

Le 13 sept. 2016 à 12:29, STRAHM Marc-André (JLC-CH) < marc-andre.strahm@jaeger-lecoultre.com > a écrit :

Cher Monsieur

Je vous prie tout d'abord de nous excuser pour le délai de cette réponse.

Selon les photographies, il s'agit d'une Reverso Homme en or jaune et châssis en or gris.

Nos archives ne reflètent pas ce numéros de boîtier 2939 parce que trop ancien.

Je suis surpris de l'indication de la petite seconde parce en principe cette indication apparait en 1933 donc après la production de la boîte numérotée 2939 selon mes connaissances.

Pourriez-vous me faire parvenir une photographie du mouvement ainsi que le N° du mouvement, il est indispensable pour la datation et je pourrais donc vous en dire plus.

La signature ne m'est pas connue, mais elle doit probablement correspondre au nom d'un revendeur de l'époque, c'était une pratique courante à cette époque.

Dans l'attente de votre réponse, je vous adresse mes sincères salutations,

Marc-André Strahm

<image001.gif>
Marc-André STRAHM - Expert Patrimoine
T. ±41 (0) 21 620 36 11 - Fax. ±41 (0) 21 620 32 66

Manufacture Jaeger-LeCoultre - www.jaeger-lecoultre.com
Branch of Richemont International S.A. - Rue de la Golisse, 8 - CH-1347 Le Sentier - Suisse

Email message sent by Jaeger-LeCoultre historical expert Marc-André Strahm to the father of the consignor of the Adolf Hitler Watch on September 13, 2016

Object: TR: FW: Info on Huber Dial Reverso - ID 25780157

Date: September 13, 2016 12:29:49 pm UTC+2

At: [deleted]

CC: JAEGER-LECOULTRE Customer Relations < customer.relation.europe@jaeger-lecoultre.com>

Dear Mr. [deleted]

First of all, I beg you to excuse us for the delay in this response.

Regarding the photographs, it is a Man's Reverso in gold and a frame in gray gold. Our archives do not show a case number 2939 because it is too old.

I am surprised by the indication of the small second because in principle this indication appeared in 1933, therefore after the production of the number numbered 2939 according to my knowledge.

Could you send me a photograph of the movement as well as the no. of the movement, it is essential for dating and I could then tell you more. The signature is not known to me, but it must probably correspond to the name of a reseller of the period, at the time a common practice.

Pending your answer, I send you my sincere regards,

Marc-André Strahm Patrimony Expert [Manufacture Jaeger-LeCoultre]

Objet: RE: Info on Huber dial Reverso - ID 25780157

Date: 20 septembre 2016 10:20:03 UTC+2

Je vous remercie pour cette photographies, je distingue tout de même le N° du mouvement qui n'à pas été fraisé, n° 12755.

Il s'agit donc d'un mouvement LeCoultre produit dans notre Manufacture, calibre 410 produit en décembre 1932.

Ce calibre est le premier modèle de mouvement produit pour les Reverso avec petite seconde.

Je tiens à vous rassurer, pour les gravures que vous mentionnez, vous pouvez compter sur la plus grande discrétion de notre part.

Je pense que cette montre est importante parce qu'elle porte avec elle un témoignage historique. Comme vous le savez nous ne sommes ni vous ni nous, responsables des aléas de l'histoire.

En espérant avoir pu répondre à votre attente, je vous prie de recevoir, Monsieur meilleures salutations

Marc-André Strahm



Marc-André STRAHM - Expert Patrimoine
T. +41 (0) 21 620 36 11 - Fax. +41 (0) 21 620 32 66

Manufacture Jaeger-LeCoultre - <u>www.jaeger-lecoultre.com</u>

Branch of Richemont International S.A. - Rue de la Golisse 8 - CH-1347 Le Septier - Suisse

Email message sent by Jaeger-LeCoultre historical expert Marc-André Strahm to the father of the consignor of the Adolf Hitler Watch on September 20, 2016

De: Strahm/ Marc-André (jlc-ch) <marc Andre.strahm@jaeger lecoultre.com>

Object: Re: LNFO on Huber Dial Reverso - TD 2SLGO1S7

Date: September 20, 2016 10:20:03 UTC+2

Dear Mr. [deleted],

Thank you for these photographs, I can still distinguish the no. of the movement that was not abraded, no. 12755. It is therefore a LeCoultre movement produced in our Manufacture, caliber 410 produced in December 1932.

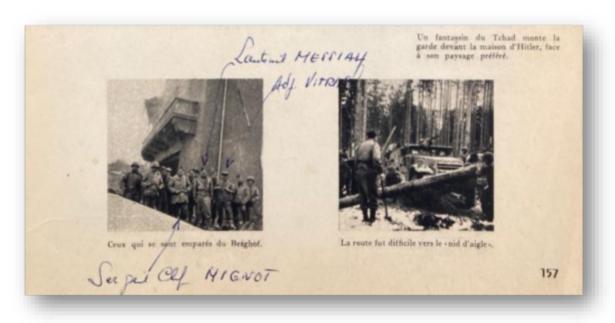
This caliber is the first movement model produced for the Reverso with small second.

I want to reassure you, for the engravings that you mention, you can count on the greatest discretion on our part. I think that this watch is important because it carries with it a historical testimony. As you know, neither we nor you, are responsible for the vagaries of history.

Hoping to have been able to meet your expectations, I beg you to receive; Monsieur [deleted], my best regards.

Marc-André Strahm

Patrimony Expert



Photographs, identification and military documents associated with the service of Chief Sergeant Robert Mignot, as well as attestation of Robert Balembois placing Mignot at the Berghof at the time of its capture.

Partial translation from the original French of the attestation by Robert Balembois:

"18 October 2018

After having examined your dossier I am sure of one thing: the photo of the group of Albert
Messiah taken near the large bay of the Berghof is authentic...It was probably taken on May 5,
1945 - the day after our arrival. Indeed some comrades had kept their helmets...I recognize Chief Sergeant
Mignot who is on Messiah's right and Adjutant Vitrac, on Messiah's left, who was still wearing his kepi..."

R. Balembis. le 18 actibes 2018

Cher Monsium

A pris aum examine votre dorrive je suin suie d'une chose:

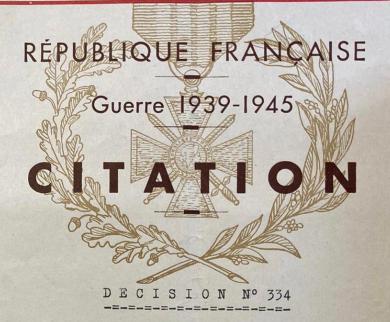
La photo du groupe d'Allort Mexica he prise plès de la grande baie du Berghof est authentique is Cour qui se sont em paris de Berghof "

Elle a surement élé prise le 5 mai 1945. le bondensoire de notre arrive. En effet certains connersées avaient conserve leur casque - tu joineal mons mas en dolonnimente. Je recomais le serguit chif Mignot qui se tienne à la droite de Messieh et l'Adjustant Vitrae, à la gauche de Messieh, qui portait toujours son Réfei.

Je me unin pas un la photo. L'eau flus de Messie le j'étais aussi, en fait, son ordonnance, toujours très accupé. Je me commaissan pas lieu trobat Mignot. Notre l'eux Central c'était l'Helf Track. Nons y provious le plus clair de motre temps. Nous ne commaissions sonitallament que la 10 avec d'hermes qui courtituaient l'équi page.

Mois pe reconsais fonfailment Robut Mignot de la douzième Compagnie

R. B. Dw



LE MINISTRE DES ARMEES, Edmond MICHELET, cite :

A L'ORDRE DU CORPS D'ARMEE

MIGNOT, Robert, André - Sergent-Chef - III/Régiment de Marche du Tchad.

"Chef de groupe d'un courage et d'un mérite exceptionnels.
"S'est magnifiquement conduit dans tous les combats où sa section
"a été engagée, que ce soit dans les Vosges et en Alsace. A pris
"le commandement de la section à Strasbourg au moment où son
"chef et l'adjoint venaient de tomber sous les balles ennemies.
"A permis ainsi à son unité de continuer la progression grâce à
"son sang-froid et à sa volonté farouche de vaincre."

Ces citations comportent l'attribution de la Croix de Guerre avec Etoile de Vermeil.

Fait à PARIS, le 4 Décembre 1946

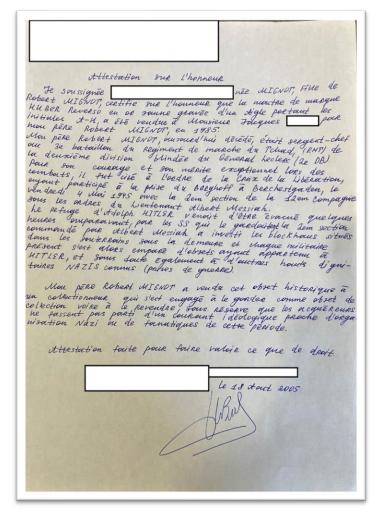
Pour AMPLIATION
Le Lieutenant-Golonel LEMOINE
Chef de la Section "Décorations"
Le Capitaine DEVILLER, Adjoint

Signé : MICHELET

. Herriet

Translation from French of Letter of Provenance from the daughter of Chief Sergeant Robert Mignot. Name and address obscured but will be released to the ultimate purchaser.

"I the undersigned, , born Mignot, daughter of Robert Mignot, certify on my honor that the Huber Reverso in gold engraved with an eagle wearing the initials A-H was sold to Mr. Jacques by my father Robert MIGNOT, in 1985. My father Robert MIGNOT, now deceased, was chiefsergeant of the 3rd Battalion of the Regiment Marche du Tchad (RMT) of the 2nd Division Blindee of General Leclerc (2eDB). By his courage and his exceptional merit during the fighting, he was awarded the Order of the Cross of the Liberation, having participated in the capture of the Berghof in Berchtesgaden, Friday, May 4, 1945 with the 2nd section of the 12th Company under the orders of Lieutenant



Albert Messiah. Adolf Hitler's refuge had just been evacuated for a few hours by the SS who [had guarded the structures], the 2nd section commanded by Albert Messiah had invested the blockhouses located in the underground passages under the house and each soldier present then seized objects having belonged to famous Nazi dignitaries (war prizes).

My father Robert Mignot sold this object to a collector who is committed to keeping it as a collector's object or even to resell, under the condition that the buyer is not part of an ideological current of a Nazi organization or fanatics this period..."

The original unedited letter of provenance will be provided to the purchaser of the watch.

Compilation of the Adolf Hitler presentation watch



















Close-up photographs of engraving







