



In 1944, Hermann Goering, commander of the Luftwaffe, ordered the Air Raid Protection School to be taken over by the Air Force of Berlin-Mitte and put to “crucial war use”. Since there was not enough space, eleven office and accommodation blocks were to be added to the site, plus a Finnish log cabin. This would exist only as long as the war lasted, and was to be built on a wooden support, thus protecting the woods as much as possible and “honouring the landscape”.

The log cabin was delivered from Finland in 1944: an “original Finnish house” to be pieced together out of individual elements. It was erected at no. 70 Am Grossen Wannsee. From 1944 until May 1945, it was occupied by General Hans-Jürgen Stumpff and his adjutant. General Hans-Jürgen Stumpff, born in 1889 in Kolberg, became commander of air defence in 1939. He was seen as an “unpolitical soldier” in the tradition of generals of the older Reich army, and for a long time he was able to stem the influence of the politically motivated Luftwaffe commanders. By 1943, he was commander of the air fleet in Norway, then he became commander-in-chief of the Reich air fleet, entrusted primarily with air raid and air defence matters (anti-aircraft auxiliary). As a representative of the Luftwaffe, General Stumpff signed the declaration of unconditional surrender by the German armed forces on May 8, 1945.

Text: Dr. Hans-Christian Jasch, Dr. Christoph Kreutzmüller

© House of the Wannsee Conference, Berlin 2015