

Heer Officials & Specialist Generals shoulder boards

Description

Beamten (Officials) and General Officers of the Specialist Careers wore shoulder boards of a design similar to regular Heer generals. In comparison to company and field grade boards, the Russia braid used was larger, with 3 strands of interwoven cord used, rather than 4. In addition, the braid was woven into 4 bends, rather than the 5 used by field grade officers. The outer cords were either metallic gold or Celleon. The smaller center cord was silver. In the case of Officials, the center cord also had interwoven colored thread V's. The Officials also used two colored underlays. The Waffenfarbe (Branch Color) of the Beamten was dark green, and all boards with an HV device, regardless of rank, will have a dark green base underlay. A secondary color, called the Nebenfarbe, was also used. This color denoted the particular specialty or trade. The change in insignia for General Officers in the Specialist Careers became effective in June 1944, but with an open-ended wear-out period and the late-war material shortages, their use was not wide-spread. The change was done to distinguish certain careers from Troop Generals (who were considered 'superior'). The new insignia used their particular branch color for the underlay, rather than the previous bright red. Devices or rank pips continued to be silver or leichtmetall.



Specialist Generalintendant (of the TSD). Royal blue underlay, made with Celleon cords.



Generalintendant. Red on Dark green underlay. The interwoven V's on the center cord are dark green.



Beamte Reichskriegsgerichtsrat (Supreme Court Martial Official). Bordo (wine red) underlay. (Tom Suter)



Specialist Generalintendant (of the Judiciary Corps). Wine red underlay with silver sword device. (Tom Suter)

Prepared by Dave Suter - 08/05/05

For those interested, a detailed article covering all aspects of German Heer shoulder boards and straps can be found at http://www.wehrmacht-awards.com/uniforms_firearms/uniforms/shoulder_boards/index.htm