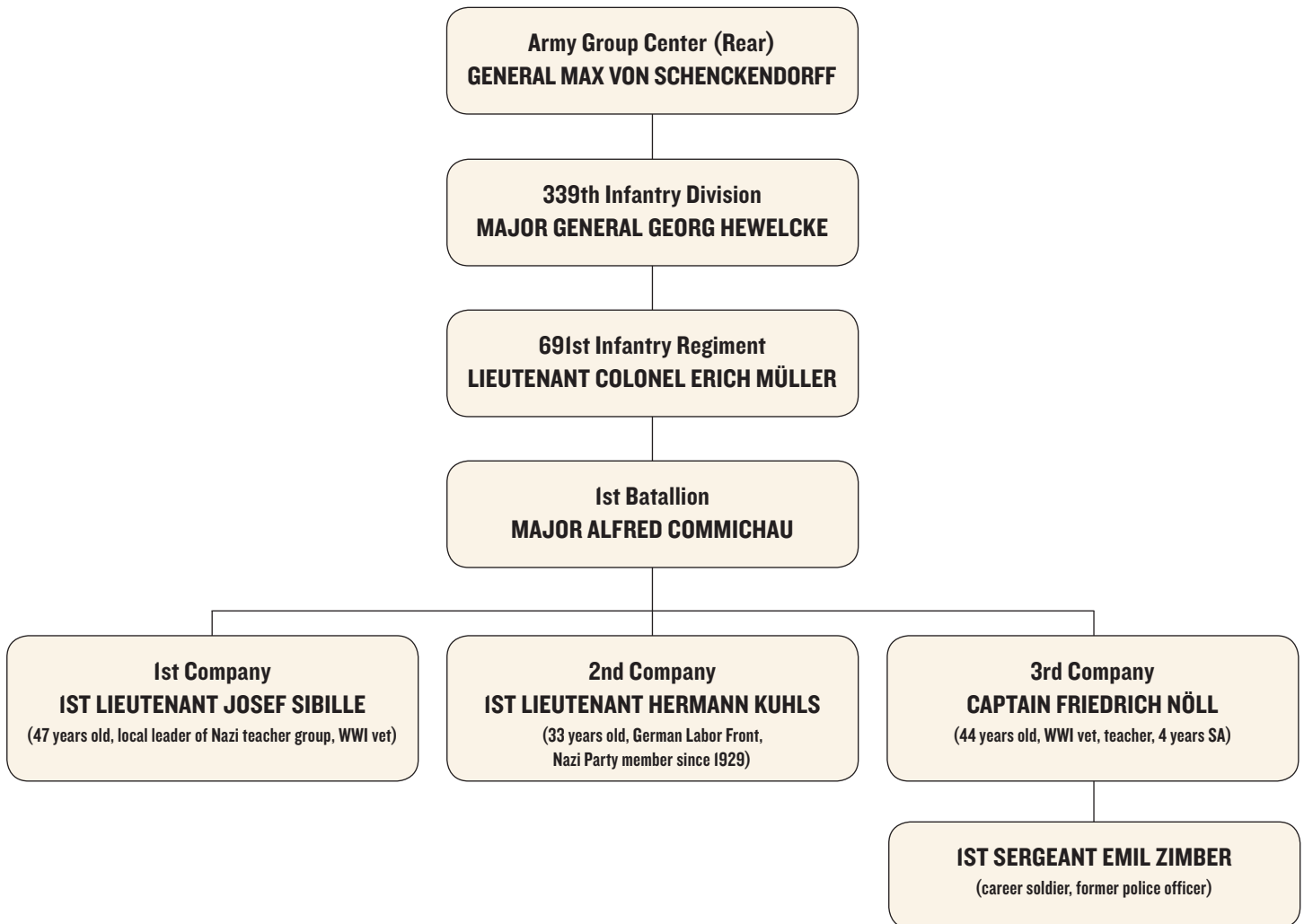


RESOURCES ON THE GERMAN MILITARY AND THE HOLOCAUST

CASE STUDY: 691st Regiment in October 1941¹

In the fall of 1941, the Wehrmacht's 691st Infantry Regiment was charged with "security and pacification" duties in occupied Belarus, in the area west of Mogilev, Orscha, and Vitebsk. Although the regiment's 1st Battalion reported daily about "enemy contact," there was no indication of a partisan threat. In late September 1941, the battalion adjutant took part in the Mogilev Conference. In early October 1941, Major Alfred Commichau, Commander of 1st Battalion, issued a verbal order to his three company leaders, Hermann Kuhls, Josef Sibille, and Friedrich Nöll, to shoot the entire Jewish population in the localities in which the companies were quartered.



¹ This case study is based on research conducted by Waitman Wade Beorn. See his book, *Marching into Darkness: The Wehrmacht and the Holocaust in Belarus* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2014).