



Major IHLEFELD

HERBERT IHLEFELD

born on June 1st, 1914
in Pinnow (district Greifenhagen) Pomerania

1933

joined the Army

1934

transfer to the Luftwaffe (I. JG 132 Richthofen),
training for fighter Pilot

1938

member of the "Legion Condor" in Spain (2./JG 88),
9 victories, awarded "Spanish Cross in Gold with Swords"

1938

after promotion to L e u t n a n t transfer to I./LG 2,
member of the first "German Aerobatic Display Squadron"

1939

as Squadron Leader taking part in Polish Campaign

1940

June 1st

promotion to O b e r l e u t n a n t

Sept 13th

award "Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross"
after 21 victories

Oct. 1st

promotion to H a u p t m a n n,
in Command of I./LG2

1941

April 6st

shot down by flak in the Balkans, badly wounded.
for eight days prisoner of war, freed by advancing German troops, after 6 weeks rehabilitation back to I./LG2

June 27th

after 40 victories the 16th recipient of the
"Oak leaves to the Knight's Cross"

1942

March 24th 70th aerial victory

April 22th 4 victories, reaching a total score of 101
the 5th German fighter Pilot with more than
100 aerial victories

April 24th promoted to Major;
ninth recipient of "Swords to the Oak Leaves",

May Kommodore JG 52

August badly injured in a take-off accident during a
test flight, after a longer stay in a hospital
some non - operational jobs like "checking out"
unit leaders

Oct. 29th Commander of "Fighter Pilots School 103"

1943

July 21th Kommodore JG 25 in the "Defence of the Reich",
JG 25's role was high altitude operations and
Mosquito hunting

Aug. 1st promotion to Oberstleutnant

Dec. 1st Kommodore JG 11

1944

May 20th after the loss of Oberst W. Oesau
Kommodore of JG 1 in France,

1945

January 1st during Operation "Bodenplatte" brought down
by German flak

January 30th promotion to Oberst,
I. and II./JG 1 equipped with He 162
("Peoples Fighter"),

The war ended for me in Leck (near the Danish border). I had flown
more than 1.000 missions, had been shot down 8 times, all but two
resulting in belly landing, I achieved 140 aerial victories
(15 heavy bombers).