

Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2009 3:51 PM

From: Longwell, Kevin K

My only first hand knowledge is knowing for sure that Gene Chalk painted that car after it arrived in the USA. The details about the car, quoted in my email, came off the internet. Very interesting bit of history. I have no doubt that it exists but I don't know where.

thanks, are you saying you found this information on the web, or have some first hand knowledge of these facts? Many believe no such car ever existed as Eva Braun's car

The car was painted by an old friend, Gene Chalk, who died last month. Gene was big in the early rock bands of Colorado and also an excellent car art painter. I found this on the net while looking for some personal info about Gene Chalk.

"This 1938 Mercedes-Benz is the most valuable car in the world. It is alleged that the Chancellor Germany ordered it to be the personal car for Eva Braun. The history is also legendary, engineering and construction are fact.

The chassis and motor were hand crafted in Stuttgart, Germany and the body hand crafted in Switzerland. The motor is supercharged straight eight. 400 Hp. The cruising speed 170 Mph and it has been driven at 175 Mph. It has 2 transmissions, both with over drive, 2 sets gears and may be driven with 4 or 7 speeds. The first transmission takes it to 125 Mph using first set of gears— then converts to the second transmission to reach 175 Mph. This automobile has both fuel injectors and spark plugs. The gas tank is under the hood. . . The diesel tank is the rear of the car and it may be driven with either fuel. The lever on the steering wheel converts it from gas to diesel. There is also a lever on the steering column that lifts the body away from the chassis for a more even ride, it is claimed that the British Jaguar was copied exactly from this car in 1940. The wheels are of special interest . . . each wheel individually suspended and each wheel is equipped with 7 automatic balancers. The tires have been replaced, they are exact replicas of the original 17 inch, 7 ply.

The only changes made on the car are the paint and the radiator cap. Original color was black and silver. The original radiator cap-hood ornament was stolen and has been replaced. The ornament on the new cap originally decorated a Nazi flag staff. The gold trim you see on the automobile is 22 carat gold. The metal curtains in front of the radiator slide up so as to keep the cold out and allow engine to heat faster. The automobile weighs 7,500 lbs., almost as much as a Cadillac. The body is made of 10 gauge steel and is built in 1 piece with no seams. There are only 4 removable parts. 2 doors, the trunk and the hood.

The automobile is laden with history. Before the Allies blockaded Berlin, the chauffeur, who was a storm trooper and body guard to Eva Braun, drove the Mercedes to a family farm in Austria in the Bavarian area where he hid it away in a barn. It remained there until he died in 1955. The German Schmeiser automatic machine gun was in the trunk and we assume it belonged to him because the 5.5 was equipped with this type of gun,

An American newsman, looking for a story interviewed his widow and was amazed to discover it she was in possession of this automobile. He managed to buy the car from her with the understanding that he would remove it from Germany without involving her. He contacted the president of a farm machinery company in Germany and gave him \$5,000 in U.S. currency to arrange with his company to crate and ship and label this car as a farm combine and the company arranged and added \$5,000 for this service. It so happened they had an order for farm implements be delivered to New Jersey and included this vehicle in their shipment. Normally, had they applied for an export permit to ship this car out of Germany, it would have been refused. The German government could have claimed ownership of this car."