



Verena Moritz
Hannes Leidinger

COLONEL REDL

The spying, the scandal, the facts

With illustrations

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Sensational: Newly discovered records on the Habsburg Monarchy's largest case of espionage

Alfred Redl, officer of the Austrian general staff under Franz Joseph I. and in his majesty's secret service, sold explosive military secrets of the Habsburg empire to Russia, Italy and France to pay for his extravagant lifestyle and love life. His suicide, however, averted the final solution of this scandalous case of espionage that affected half of Europe – stuff that myths and legends are made of... 100 years later, Verena Moritz and Hannes Leidinger went on a fascinating search for clues: What information was sold? Was Redl the head of a whole network of secret agents? What was his motivation? How has this treason influenced World War I? The two historians unearthed sensational material from the archives and shed light on one of the most mysterious chapters in Austrian history.

VERENA MORITZ

born in Eisenstadt in 1969, studied history and Russian in Vienna. Spent several years conducting research in Russia. Lecturer at the universities of Salzburg and Vienna. Her most recent publications with Residenz Verlag are 1917: Austrian Voices on the Russian Revolution (2017) and Lenin (2023), co-written with Hannes Leidinger.

HANNES LEIDINGER

born 1969, studied history, classical archaeology and primeval and ancient history in Vienna. He is an exhibition curator, an advisor for radio broadcasts and TV documentaries and directs scientific research projects. He also teaches at the Department of Contemporary History of the University of Vienna. Leidinger has published widely and is head of the Vienna branch office of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institut für Kriegsfolgenforschung. Most recently published by Residenz Verlag: "Habsburgs schmutziger Krieg" (Habsburgs' dirty war) (2014). He has co-authored the book "Hitler - prägende Jahre" (Hitler - The formative Years) (2020) with Christian Rapp.