ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Born near a U.S. Army Base in northern Bavaria to a WW II artillery officer and subsequent company director and his wife, John Vincent Palatine attended boarding school at the noted Staatliches Landschulheim Marquartstein near the Chiemsee Lake and then studied law, communications and European history at the Ludwigs-Maximillian University in Munich, subsequently switching to pharmaceutics at the University of Innsbruck, Austria and Regensburg, Bavaria. After his father's death he went on to work for years in the “unbelievably dull pharmaceutical wholesale business” in Germany, Kenya and the United States.

Inspired by his long-standing interest in history, in the mid-2000s Palatine embarked on the extended project of writing "The Little Drummer Boy". He spent six years on research, three years in writing it and two years editing. Over 2,000 primary and secondary sources were consulted for this well-documented and annotated work, turning out a premier and indispensable academic, military and journalistic resource. He has added a blog and various educational websites

His second interest is teaching, and he is working currently on beginner’s textbooks on school chemistry and a website on German historical documents past 1871. When he’s not writing, Palatine devotes time to further research. He lives in Bavaria, near Munich.