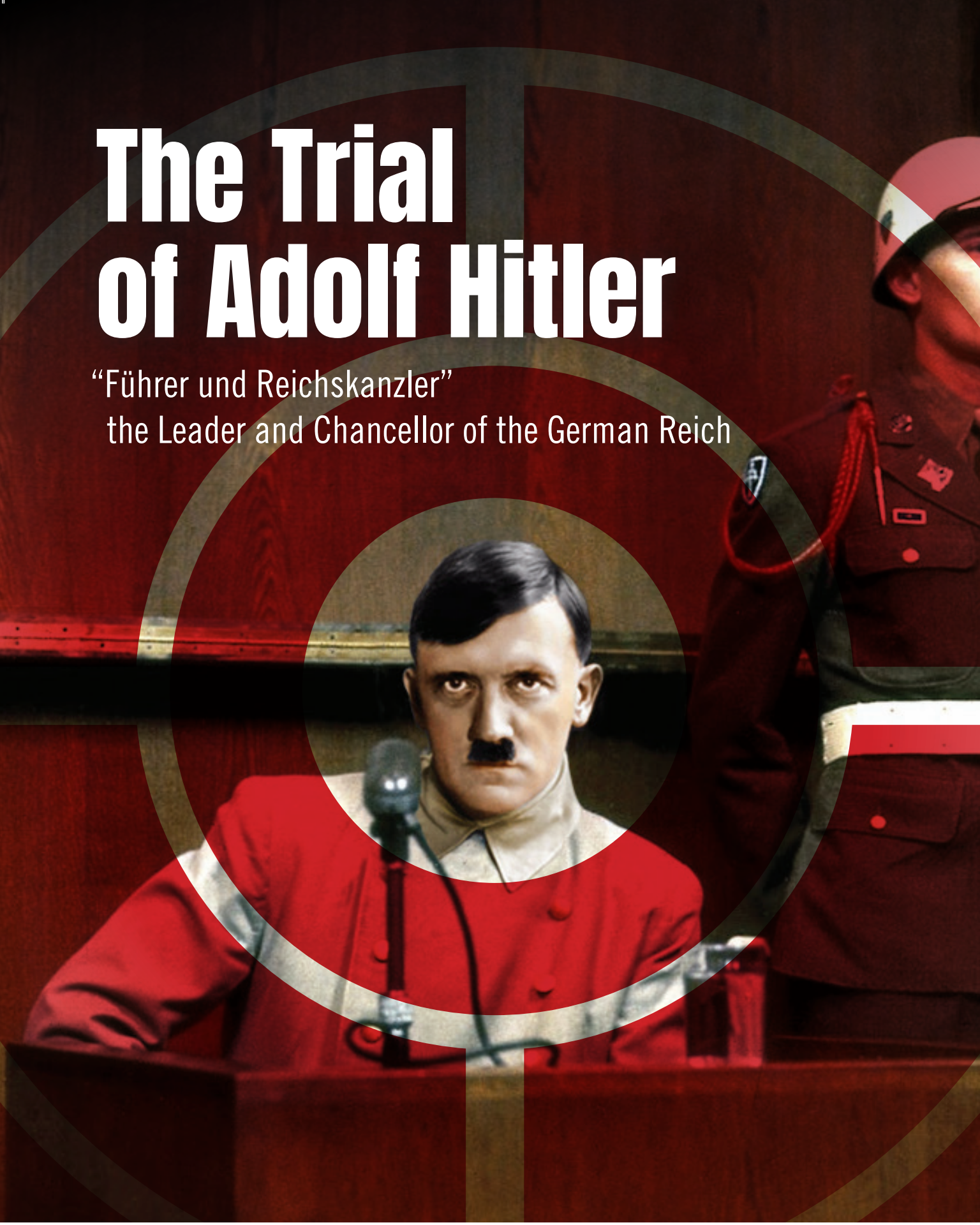


# The Trial of Adolf Hitler

“Führer und Reichskanzler”

the Leader and Chancellor of the German Reich



# Cover

the cover of this text was designed by **Nick DeCesare**, the Founder and President of *Third Effect Marketing and Design*.

2 The cover design was inspired by an original photo, shown BELOW, of **Hermann Göring** during the Nuremberg Trials of Nazi War Criminals for “*crimes against humanity*” committed during World War II. **Hermann Göring** was the German Reichsmarschall, Commander of the Luftwaffe (German air force) and the creator of the Gestapo, the official secret police of Nazi Germany in German-occupied Europe. On April 20<sup>th</sup>, 1934, oversight of the Gestapo passed to the head of the Schutzstaffel or SS, Heinrich Himmler, who was also appointed Chief of German Police by Adolf Hitler in 1936. Göring was placed on trial after his capture and the defeat of Germany. His trial took place at the *Palace of Justice* during the International Military Tribunal in the city of Nuremberg, Germany in 1946. Göring was born in 1893. He was the second-highest-ranking Nazi official tried at Nuremberg behind Reich President (former Admiral) Karl Dönitz. The prosecution leveled an indictment of multiple charges against Göring which included: conspiracy; waging a war of aggression; war crimes including the plundering and removal to Germany of works of art and other property stolen from other countries; crimes against humanity including the disappearance of political and other opponents under the “*Night and Fog*” decree; the torture and terrible treatment of prisoners of war; and the murder and enslavement of civilians, including what was at the time estimated to be 5,700,000 Jews. The trial lasted 218 days. Göring was found guilty on all counts and was sentenced to death by hanging. Göring made an appeal to be shot as a soldier instead of hanged as a common criminal, but the court refused. He committed suicide with a potassium cyanide capsule the night before he was to be hanged. Göring’s body and those of other Nazis charged, found guilty and executed, were displayed at the execution site for witnesses. The bodies were later cremated at Ostfriedhof, Munich, Germany and their ashes scattered in the Isar River.  
(source -wikipedia)



original photo of Hermann Goering at the Nuremberg Trials .

# GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS:

## PERSPECTIVE INTERPRETATION

*“This text is not fact, rather the view of one author; consequently, it should not be automatically accepted as ‘truth.’ Two time Pulitzer Prize winning historian and author, Barbara Tuchman, stated ‘there is no such thing as a neutral or purely objective historian.... without an opinion, a historian would simply be a ticking clock....’ Your mission should be to determine the ‘truth.’ Your challenge will be to explain why anyone should believe you.”*

3

## CREDIBILITY BELIEVABILITY

*“It’s not a given, we acquiesce too quickly. Be respectfully skeptical. Do your homework; check the record and the resume. Ask the question – ‘should I trust this person as a credible source for the truth?’ Make it a prerequisite before embracing the claims of anyone who professes to have the ‘answers.’”*

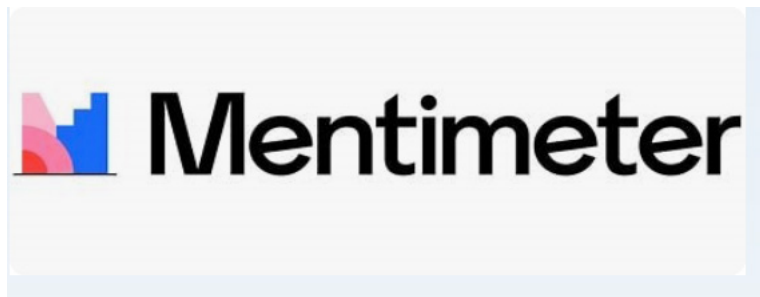
## ***Class Plan:***

The class will attempt to **create an imaginary exercise, a mock trial, of Adolf Hitler**, a German politician, eventual leader of the **National Socialist German Workers' Party** (commonly known as the **Nazi Party**), before becoming the dictator of the country of Germany during World War II (1934 - 1945).

The student interrogation of Hitler will be facilitated by an **app** called **Mentimeter**, or Menti for short. The Menti app accommodates online collaborations by ensuring each participant's contribution is **anonymous** and shared in *real time* using each participant's mobile device. The use of **Mentimeter is intended to increase student confidence** to ask questions or state opinions and not worry about peer or teacher judgements when asking their questions or stating opinions. A person's ability and willingness to ask questions during their life is a key factor for building networks of successful, influential, ethical and caring people who can help us achieve the success we hope for. In this class and life, "**QUESTIONS ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANSWERS!**"

Mentimeter is a Swedish company based in the city of Stockholm that develops and maintains their app that is often used in environments promoting presentations, feedback and questions, both anonymously or with acknowledgements, in real-time.

**see - <https://www.mentimeter.com/>**





## Class Preparation:

Students are asked to **prepare** for a Mock Trial interrogating/questioning German Chancellor and soon to be *Fuhrer*, Adolf Hitler, i.e. earnest, curious, rigorous, investigative, **pre**-trial work. I encourage each student to read this text as well as **Wikipedia** postings on Adolf Hitler and the Nuremberg Trial and pose questions to **ChatGPT** related to Hitler, the Nuremberg Trials and any other person or issues you believe are related to Adolf Hitler's beliefs or actions.

The **GOALS** for this lesson are:

- **increase** student self-esteem/**CONFIDENCE**
- **understand** 'why' and 'how' **QUESTIONS are INVALUABLE** for helping people be successful
- **realize good STORYTELLING** ('how' we *meet & greet* people with good eye contact, confident posture and a smile; *how we tell our story* with humility and passion; *following up* after meeting influential people with a 'thank you' note/email/text; 'connecting' with successful people on *LinkedIn*, etc) **affects** the way people perceive our **BRAND** which helps us attract successful, influential, caring people to our **NETWORK** for **opportunities** of good jobs and a successful, fulfilling life.
- **critical thinking recognition of:** the differences between '*propaganda*' and '*marketing*'; *recognizing bias* / '*partisan*' information from **people** in positions of **authority** and the media they control; **realizing** the importance of **listening** to '*all sides of an issue*' before determining what is **a fact** and **non-partisan**, proven '*truth*'



**This is NOT THE FIRST 'MOCK TRIAL' OF ADOLF HITLER.** On March 7, 1934 at Madison Square Garden in New York City, the American Jewish Congress with support of the American Federation of Labor (union) and dozens of other Jewish and anti-Nazi organizations organized their 'mock trial' of Hitler. Thousands of people were in attendance. New York City Mayor Fiorello La Guardia delivered the opening address. The verdict was '**guilty**' - "*We declare that the Hitler government is compelling the German people to turn back from civilization to an antiquated and barbarous despotism which menaces the progress of mankind toward peace and freedom. Adolf Hitler is a threat to worldwide civilized life.*"



**Adolf Hitler** became '*Chancellor*' of Germany in 1933 **when** the **duly elected** '*President*' of Germany, **Paul von Hindenburg**, reluctantly **appointed Hitler** '*Chancellor*' of the country to appease von Hindenburg's political opponents. In 1933, when Adolf Hitler became '*Chancellor*' of Germany, the position of '*President*' was still held by von Hindenburg. At that time, the '*President*' of the country held more power, according to the German constitution, than the '*Chancellor*'. However, Adolf Hitler continuously subverted the '*President*'s power through

**manipulative and deceitful  
political deals,  
violent intimidation of  
German officials and citizens,  
continuous media bias and partisanship,  
and  
propaganda and misinformation  
to silence critics and acquire complete political power  
to become Germany's absolute dictator and '*Fuhrer*'.**

Along with these nefarious activities, there were also a number of other events in Germany and the world that helped Hitler acquire absolute power.

The '*President*', as the head of state, originally possessed certain powers and responsibilities according to Germany's Weimar **Constitution**. These powers included appointing and firing any '*Chancellor*,' commanding the military (army, navy, airforce, etc.) and signing treaties. The '*President*' also had the authority to dissolve the Reichstag (parliament/congress) and call for new elections.

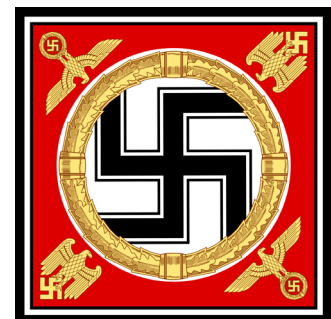
**Hitler and his Nazi followers took advantage of  
the anger and frustration of the German people  
caused by Germany's defeat in World War I  
and  
the punishing measures dictated in the Versailles Peace Treaty  
Germany was forced to sign.**

Economic hardship, especially **unemployment**, followed Germany's defeat and was exacerbated (made worse) by the **world wide Great Depression in 1929**. Germany was further embarrassed by the requirements of the Versailles Treaty forcing Germany to relinquish 13% of the country's land in Europe as well as give up its prized colonies in Africa and Pacific islands. Hitler and his Nazi Party exploited German hardships caused by the Versailles Treaty and German citizen frustration with Germany's leaders. Hitler soon acquired enough power to eventually, as Chancellor, bypass the Reichstag (German Congress) to authorize new, Nazi Party favored laws. Hitler soon controlled ALL governmental power in Germany by merging his role as '*Chancellor*' with the powers of the '*President*'.

**Hitler 's new title was “*Führer und Reichskanzler*”**

(*Leader and Chancellor*) in 1934 after President Hindenburg's death. This consolidation of power effectively made Hitler the supreme authority in Nazi Germany. Hitler assumed dictatorial powers of Nazi Germany from 1934 until his death by suicide in 1945.

Hitler was born on April 20, 1889, in the town of *Braunau am Inn*, part of a country then called Austria-Hungary, today, simply Austria. Hitler moved to Germany in his early twenties and joined the National Socialist German Workers' Party, known commonly as the "*Nazi Party*". Hitler designed the party's banner of a **swastika** in a white circle on a red background in 1919. Hitler quickly rose through the ranks of the party, becoming its leader in 1921. He promoted an extreme form of nationalism or '*love of country*', a belief in the racial purity and genetic superiority of German people and anti-Semitism as core tenets of the Nazi ideology.



Hitler's swastika

During his time in power, Hitler created new policies that targeted and

**persecuted various racial groups,  
primarily *Jews*  
resulting in the *Holocaust*  
which *murdered six million Jews*  
and *others deemed 'undesirable'* by the Nazi regime: *Gypsies*,  
*handicapped* people,  
*Slavs* (Russians and Polish people),  
AND races of other people  
the Nazi's considered '*inferior*'  
to the '*superior*' race (German / Aryan).**

Hitler's Nazi government took total control over the German society, suppressed political opposition, and propagated Nazi propaganda through state-controlled media. Hitler's policies resulted in the killing of nearly **two million non-Jewish Polish** civilians, over **three million Soviet Union** (today called Russia) prisoners of war, communists, political opponents, homosexuals, the physically and mentally disabled, Jehovah's Witnesses, Adventists, and tradesmen belonging to a labor union.

**The Nazis embraced the concepts of  
'*eugenics*' and '*racial hygiene*'.**



photos above are Hitler staged poses for the press to release in 1939 as he promotes his passion for Germany and the new Germany that only he could create. Hitler was a master STORYTELLER. His intimidation of Germany's MEDIA made sure every news release told the '*partisan*,' '*biased*' story of the Nazi Party and Hitler ideology. Hitler's charisma was undeniable.





The photo above shows crowds of Germans expressing their devotion to Adolf Hitler in the **Hitler Salute** or "**Hitlergruss**". This expression of support and affection for Hitler and the Nazi beliefs of the country became **a required response** around 1933. The **Hitler Salute** involved extending the right arm straight forward with the palm facing down and fingers together, while saying phrases such as "**Heil Hitler**" or "**Sieg Heil**." It was accompanied by a slight incline of the head towards the right shoulder. The gesture was adopted by the Nazi Party and **enforced** as a **symbol of allegiance and conformity**. It was meant to convey obedience and reverence to Hitler and his beliefs. The salute was commonly used in public rallies, military gatherings, and official functions during the Nazi era. People were often arrested by the German SS for not saluting German authorities. (see page 58,59,94 in the New York Times best selling book entitled "*In the Garden of the Beasts*" by author Erik Larson for examples. ) After World War II and the fall of the Nazi regime, the Hitler salute was banned in Germany because it was considered a symbol of the atrocities committed by the Nazis. Today, its use is **now illegal in Germany** and some other countries due to its association with Nazism and its connotations of hate and extremism.

**Eugenics** is a belief the **physical abilities and intelligence of talented people are caused by their superior genes** AND these superior genes must be protected by sterilizing and eventually eliminating races of people with 'inferior' genes. The term **racial hygiene** was used to describe **an approach to eugenics** to prevent the marriage and procreation of people from superior races with people from races Hitler and eugenic proponents deemed 'inferior' like Jews and Gypsies. Hitler professed, through propaganda in Nazi partisan media, that the German (*Aryan*) race was superior to all other races and to protect Germans from losing their superior intelligence and physical attributes, laws must be enacted to prevent Germans from marrying and procreating with *inferior* races of people. Hitler also prescribed sterilizing 'inferior' races of people as well as people with mental or physical handicaps. Hitler's Nazi Germany went so far as to murder / exterminate those people he deemed 'inferior'. Millions of 'inferior' people and Nazi political opponents were murdered in Nazi concentration camps like **Auschwitz-Birkenau**, located in Nazi German occupied Poland, **Dachau** located near Munich, Germany and **Treblinka** also located in Nazi controlled Poland during World War II. **Eugenic**'s theories and beliefs were promoted by the Nazi's as well as by leaders in other countries in the world. While **eugenic** principles were embraced as early as **ancient Greece**, the modern history of eugenics began in the late 19<sup>th</sup> (1800s) and early 20<sup>th</sup> century (1900s) when a popular **eugenics** movement emerged in the United Kingdom (**England**), and then spread to other countries including the **United States, Canada, Australia**, and **most European countries**. Many United States of America early 20<sup>th</sup> century restrictive immigration laws were the result of eugenic beliefs; American immigration laws prevented some races, like Italians from southern Italy, from entering the United States. These restrictions were supported by several influential politicians like **Democrat President Woodrow Wilson** and **Republican President Teddy Roosevelt**. Many of America's early immigration restrictions focused on keeping people deemed 'inferior' by American politicians embracing eugenics' beliefs, like Italians from southern Italy, from entering America. (See profile of **Franz BOAS** in Social Studies 2.0 - Life Skills class "**SUCCESS**" text book on page 294 for more information on *the Eugenics movement in America*.)



photo above is a Jewish Soviet soldier taken prisoner by the German Army in August 1941. At least 50,000 Jewish soldiers were shot. Jews were forced to wear a yellow badge, commonly known as the "Jewish star" or "Jewish badge." It was a cloth patch in the shape of a six-pointed Star of David, typically made of yellow fabric with the word "Jude" (German for "Jew") written in the center. This practice was part of the Nazi policies aimed at isolating and humiliating Jews in Germany.

On September 15<sup>th</sup>, 1935, Hitler presented two laws—known as the *Nuremberg Laws*—to the Reichstag/congress. The laws banned sexual relations between Aryan Germans and Jews and later included “*Gypsies, Negroes and other offspring*”. Hitler’s early eugenic policies also targeted children with physical and mental disabilities in a Nazi program called *Action Brandt*. Hitler later authorised a ‘*euthanasia*’ program, i.e. the act of putting to death anyone with serious mental and physical disabilities.

**Nazi Germany attacked and controlled a significant number of other countries and their populations during the course of the World War II -**

- **Germany:** The population of Nazi Germany was around **80 million** people.
- Occupied **Poland:** The population of occupied Poland was approximately **35 million** people. This includes both the non-Jewish Polish population and the Jewish population that was subjected to Nazi persecution.
- Occupied **France:** The population of occupied France, including both Vichy France and the directly occupied regions, was around **41 million** people.
- **Austria:** After the annexation of Austria in 1938 (known as the Anschluss), the population of Austria was integrated into Nazi Germany, adding roughly **6.5 million** people.
- **Bohemia and Moravia:** This region, consisting of **present-day Czech Republic**, had a population of about **7 million people**.
- **Other Occupied Territories:** The population figures for other occupied countries, such as the **Netherlands, Belgium, Norway, Denmark, and parts of the Soviet Union**, could range from several million to tens of millions collectively.

**PER CHATGPT** - “*It is important to note that these population figures are approximate and can vary depending on different sources and specific definitions of what constitutes “Nazi control” or “occupation.” Additionally, these figures do not account for territories under the control of other Axis powers (Japan, Italy) or occupied by other Nazi collaborators.*”



**In 1942, the total population of the WORLD was 2.3 BILLION**

**Total population of the WORLD today, 2023, is 8 billion**

**Total population of the United States of America today (2023) - 331 million**

As the Allied armies of the United States, the Soviet Union (Russia), England, and France, advanced on Germany in 1945 to defeat the Nazis, Hitler retreated to his bunker in Berlin. On **April 30th, 1945**, Hitler realized defeat was imminent so

**he committed suicide by gunshot.**



**EXTRA**

PARIS EDITION  
**THE STARS AND STRIPES**  
 Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces in the European Theater of Operations

**EXTRA**

Vol. 1—No. 279

1 Fr.

1 Fr.

Wednesday, May 2, 1945

# HITLER DEAD

The German radio announced last night that Adolf Hitler had died yesterday afternoon, and that Adm. Doenitz, former commander-in-chief of the German Navy, had succeeded him as ruler of the Reich.

Doenitz, speaking later over the German radio, Reuter said, declared that "Hitler has fallen at his command post."

"My first task," Doenitz said, "is to save the German people from destruction by Bolshevism. If only for this task, the struggle will continue."

## Churchill Hints Peace Is at Hand

Winston Churchill indicated in a brief address to Commons yesterday that peace in Europe might come before Saturday.

Although he declined to give any statement on the reported surrender negotiations, the Prime Minister acknowledged that an important announcement was possible before the House adjourned Friday night. The address was regarded as confirmation that the negotiations are well under way.

In Stockholm, meanwhile, Count Folke Bernadotte, head of the Swedish Red Cross, gave verbal denial as a press conference that he was acting as go-between in peace negotiations between the Allies and the German government.

### Count Denies Visit

"I have not seen Himmler during my last visit to Germany and Denmark, and I have not forwarded any message from Himmler or other authoritative German to the Allies," said the Swedish diplomat shortly after his return by plane from Copenhagen.

The count previously had been regarded as the intermediary through (Continued on Page 8)

### Truman Names New Aide

WASHINGTON, May 1 (AP)—President Truman today appointed Edward Daniel McKim, an Omaha, Neb., insurance executive, to be his chief administrative assistant.



Adolf Hitler at his height  
 Story of Hitler's Life on Page 8

The announcement preceding the proclamation by Doenitz said: "It is reported from the Fuehrer's headquarters that our Fuehrer, Adolf Hitler, has fallen this afternoon at his command post in the Reich Chancellery, fighting to the last breath against Bolshevism and for his country. On April 30, the Fuehrer appointed Grand Adm. Doenitz as his successor. The new Fuehrer will speak to the German people."

The talk by Doenitz then followed, Reuter said. Doenitz said: "German men and women, soldiers of the German Wehrmacht, our Fuehrer, Adolf Hitler, has fallen. German people are in deepest mourning and veneration."

"Adolf Hitler recognized beforehand the terrible danger of Bolshevism," Doenitz said, "and devoted his life to fighting it. At the end of this, his battle, and of his unswerving straight path of life, stands his death as a hero in the capital of the Reich."

"All his life meant service to the German people. His battle against the Bolshevist flood benefited not only Europe but the whole world. The Fuehrer has appointed me as his successor. Fully conscious of the responsibility, I take over the leadership of the German people."

(Continued on Page 8)

**Hitler's legacy, his lasting brand**, is formed by the immense destruction and suffering he caused during World War II and the Holocaust and the killing of so many races of people deemed '*inferior*'. Adolf Hitler remains **one of history's most reviled, despicable, disdained, contemptible, government 'leaders'**.

People wondered

how could someone with an **unimpressive BRAND** early in life,  
perceived as a "**NON-ENTITY**"  
as historian Erik Larson describes Hitler  
in his best selling book,  
*"In The Garden Of Beasts"*,  
become **one of the 20<sup>th</sup> century's MOST POWERFUL PEOPLE?**

14 Larson describes Hitler as someone "*who had not previously distinguished himself IN ANY WAY, not during his service in the German army during World War I, not in any job after the war, AND not in art despite believing he was a GREAT ARTIST. He was indolent (lazy). He got out of bed late, worked little, and surrounded himself with others of lesser abilities with whom he felt most comfortable. He dressed badly. Apart from his mustache and piercing, penetrating eyes, the features of his face were unimpressive.*" Ernst Hanfstaengl, Harvard University educated and owner of a newspaper called '*Illustrierter Beobachter*' (Illustrated Observer) which promoted Nazi propaganda, said after meeting Hitler for the first time, "*Hitler looked like a suburban hairdresser on his day off*". William E. Dodd, the United States ambassador to Germany from 1933 to 1937, had several occasions to meet Hitler and described him as "*enigmatic (difficult to figure out) with dark, piercing eyes. He was a rather small man, an unimpressive figure, with a large head*". Dodd noted that "*Hitler's face had a peculiar and intense expression.; he could be charming, polite, and accommodating when he met and spoke with people. Hitler was demonstrative when he spoke, especially when he got excited or upset, with wild arm movements and passionate, dramatic facial expressions.*" Dodd and others acknowledged

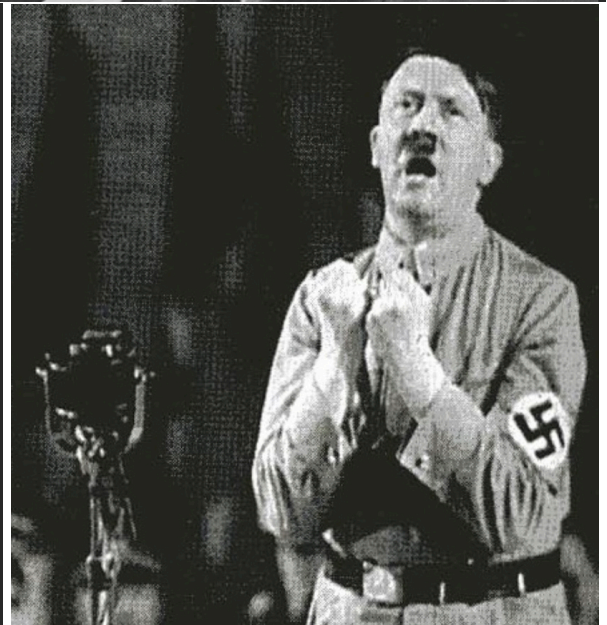
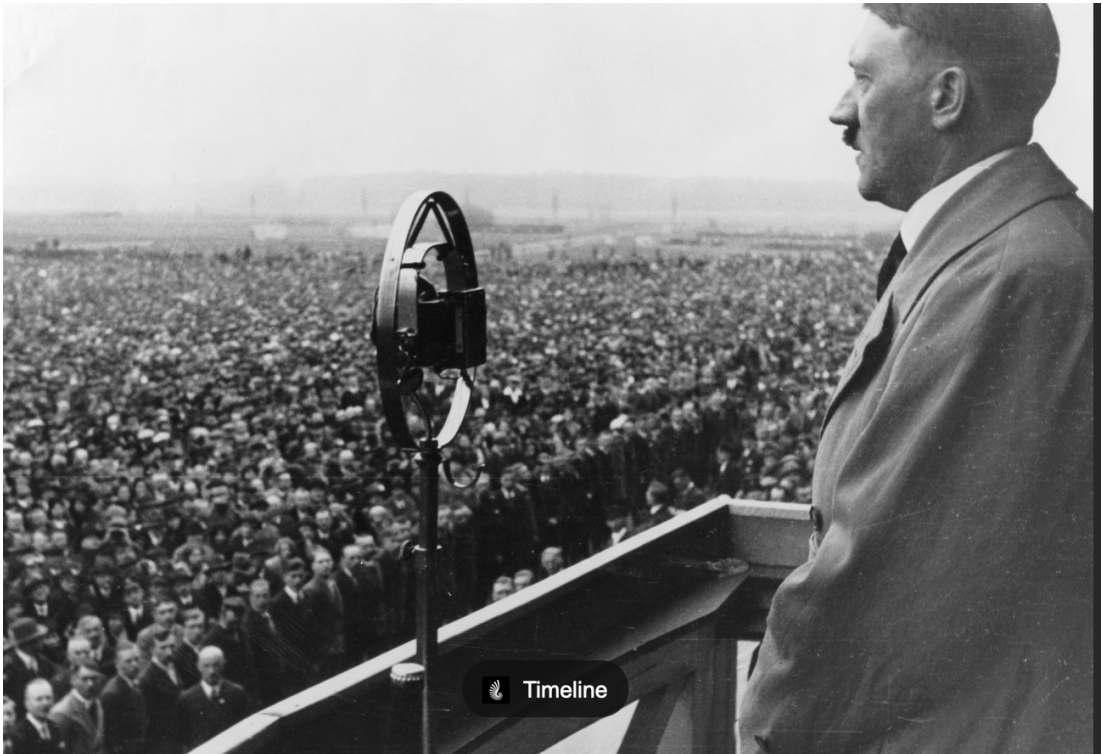
**Hitler was a great STORYTELLER.**

**His passion was contagious.**

**His words resonated.**

**Hitler was convincing.**





Hitler practised his public speaking skills in front of a mirror and planned his speeches using choreographed inflection and hand and body gestures. Hitler could improvise to adapt his presentation to make a good connection with his audience. His planned speeches used loudspeakers, decorative flames, with soldiers in uniforms, and marches to attract attention to speeches.



JOSEPH GOEBBELS

Hitler controlled all German media outlets, from newspapers and radio to video newsreels and movies. There was no such thing as Nazi German non-partisan, objective reporting of the news.

**Every news report, every photo,  
every video,  
every poster, every speech,  
was a PARTISAN presentation  
supporting  
Adolf Hitler's  
Nazi ideology and actions.**

16

Hitler appointed **Paul Joseph Goebbels** as **Germany's official STORYTELLER, Chief of PROPAGANDA**, for the Nazi Party from 1933 until his death by suicide one day after Hitler's suicide in 1945. Goebbels' wife also committed suicide after **poisoning their six children with cyanide**.



**There was  
NO balanced,  
'both sides of a story',  
objective,  
NON-PARTISAN media  
in Germany  
during Hitler's Reich.**

Every presentation of the news was '**biased**'. The Nazi government and the media it controlled told ONLY Hitler's Nazi story. The only '**truth**' was the '**Hitler truth**'.

This author adds "**Hitler was persistent; he never gave up on his dream to redeem the greatness of Germany and avenge the insults and hardship imposed upon Germany by the Allied countries in the Versailles Treaty. Hitler was especially angry at England and France; the United States never ratified Versailles.**"



Hitler's **GRIT**, his dogged promotion of his **BRAND**,  
his ability to build a **NETWORK**  
of influential, successful Germans who  
shared Hitler's frustration over the outcome of World War I  
and believed Hitler when he said  
*'Germany can be GREAT AGAIN!!'*



17

Hitler understood his audience and his time.  
He had **EMPATHY**;

he clearly understood the German peoples' yearning to return to the great empire Germany once was, to make Germany great again.

Hitler's Germany  
according to this author,  
was, "*his perfect storm*".



18

To prepare students for their interrogation of Adolf Hitler,  
**here's a mock interrogation of Hitler created by ChatGPT**

where the Allied leaders who defeated Hitler and his **Axis** partners  
(**Japan, Italy,**) interrogate him.

What follows is a transcript of the mock interrogation of Adolf Hitler  
by these Allied National Leaders:

1. **Winston Churchill** - Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
2. **Franklin D. Roosevelt** - President of the United States
3. **Joseph Stalin** - Premier of the Soviet Union
4. **Charles de Gaulle** - leader of France



seated from left to right in the photo above: British Prime Minister **Winston Churchill**, U.S. President **Franklin Roosevelt**, and Soviet leader **Joseph Stalin** met at the city of Yalta in Crimea in the Soviet Union in February 1945 to discuss their joint occupation of Germany and plans for postwar Europe. **The French leader General Charles de Gaulle was not invited to Yalta**, a diplomatic **insult to de Gaulle** causing a deep and lasting resentment the French leader held against Roosevelt. De Gaulle claimed his exclusion from the Yalta meeting was due to President Roosevelt's personal dislike for him; the Soviets had also objected to de Gaulle's inclusion at Yalta as a full participant.

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The setting for our 'mock trial' is a room with Adolf Hitler seated at a table, guarded by Allied soldiers. The Allied leaders enter the room, taking their seats across from Hitler.

**Churchill:** *Adolf Hitler, you stand accused of invading and occupying several European countries between 1938 and 1941, causing immense suffering and loss of life. We are here to question you about your actions and to seek the truth.*

**Roosevelt:** *Mr. Hitler, your aggressive expansionist policies have destabilized the entire continent. We would like to understand your motivations behind these actions.*

**Hitler:** [*Smirking*] *Gentlemen, my actions were driven by a desire to secure the vital **Lebensraum** (meaning 'living space') for the German people and to establish a new order in Europe. It was Germany's destiny to expand and bring our Aryan race to its rightful place of world dominance.*

**Stalin:** *Destiny? You arrogant, ego-maniac. Is it not true that you violated international treaties and agreements, such as the Treaty of Versailles and the Munich Agreement? Your actions have shown a complete disregard for international law and the sovereignty of other nations.*

**Hitler:** *The peace*

***Treaty of Versailles, officially ending World War I,  
was an **unfair** document !  
This treaty **unnecessarily humiliated and punished Germany*****

*and, consequently, its people after the Great War!*

***The **Treaty of Versailles**  
you countries created and forced Germany to sign  
may have officially ended World War I  
but it **caused the next, World War II!!*****

20

*This treaty not only hurt our country economically, destroying businesses and jobs, but also destroyed the Germany national brand!*

***I sought to **rectify the injustices Versailles**  
inflicted upon our people.***

*As for the Munich Agreement, it was a necessary step to protect the rights of ethnic Germans living in Czechoslovakia.*

**De Gaulle:** *Your claims of protecting ethnic Germans are nothing but a facade. Your invasion of Poland and subsequent occupation of other countries prove that your intentions were far from noble. You trampled upon the principles of self-determination and used force to achieve your objectives.*

**Hitler:** *The territories I acquired were rightfully German.*

***Poland was a **threat to our security,*****



*and its takeover was essential for the protection of the German people.*

***My actions were also necessary for the preservation of  
GERMAN **racial purity** and national strength.***

**Churchill:** *Adolf Hitler, your justifications are steeped in delusion and aggression. The world has witnessed the horrors unleashed by your regime, the countless lives lost and the suffering inflicted.*

**You, Mr Hitler, systematically violated human rights,  
targeting innocent civilians  
and  
perpetrating **GENOCIDE!****

**Roosevelt:** *Mr. Hitler, your actions have left an indelible stain on history. Your invasion of Poland led to the outbreak of a global conflict and the deaths of millions. Your regime's*



In the photo above, you can see the bones of murdered prisoners burned in the ovens (crematoria) in the German concentration camp at Weimar, Germany. This photo was taken by members of the 3<sup>rd</sup> United States Army division which took over the camp on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 1945.

*policies of extermination and oppression are an affront to humanity. How do you justify these heinous crimes?*

**Hitler:** *I reject your accusations! My actions were driven by the necessity to protect the purity of the Aryan (German) race and to eliminate threats to **German supremacy**. The weak and unworthy deserve to die.*

**Stalin:** *Your ideology and actions have caused immeasurable suffering and loss. The world will never forget the atrocities committed under your regime. You will be held accountable for the crimes against humanity that you and your followers perpetrated.*

**[The interrogation continues as the Allied leaders press Hitler for further details and evidence.]**

**Churchill:** *Adolf Hitler, we demand further details regarding your invasion and occupation of European countries. Specifically, we want to know the extent of your involvement in planning and executing these operations. Who were your key advisors and military commanders?*

22 **Hitler:** *My military advisors played a crucial role in strategizing and executing our expansionist policies. **General Wilhelm Keitel**, head of the Armed Forces High Command, was instrumental in coordinating our military campaigns. Additionally, Field Marshal **Wilhelm von Leeb**, General **Gerd von Rundstedt**, and General **Heinz Guderian** were among the key commanders who led our forces on the ground.*

**Roosevelt:** *Mr Hitler, we also seek clarification on the methods you employed during your invasions. What were your specific military strategies and objectives in each country you invaded?*

**Hitler:** *Our military strategies varied depending on the circumstances. In Poland,*

***we employed the **Blitzkrieg** tactic,***  
***aiming for quick and overwhelming military force***  
***to cripple the enemy's defenses.***

*Our objective was to swiftly defeat the Polish army and establish German control. In later invasions of other countries, such as Denmark, Norway, and France, we utilized similar strategies, aiming to secure key locations and establish puppet governments of local leaders who would follow Nazi plans.*

**De Gaulle:** Mr Hitler, we are aware of the extensive destruction and loss of life caused by your military operations. What were your instructions to your military forces regarding the treatment of civilians and prisoners of war?

**Hitler:** *Our primary objective was the establishment of German dominance.*

*While I expected my soldiers to treat civilians and prisoners of war according to the rules of war, there were instances where atrocities occurred. Regrettably, there were incidents where our soldiers acted against orders and committed crimes against innocent civilians and prisoners. However, I must emphasize that such actions were not part of our official policy.*

**Stalin:** Adolf Hitler, we have evidence of your regime's systematic persecution and extermination of millions, particularly targeting Jewish populations. What role did you play in formulating and implementing these genocidal policies?

**Hitler:** The policies regarding the persecution and

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*extermination of Jews and other groups  
were implemented by the **SS** and **Heinrich Himmler.***

*I did espouse racial purity.  
I believe **in the superiority of the Aryan (German) race,**  
**and the extermination of inferior races**  
but I did not personally involve myself in the detailed planning  
or execution of these policies.*

*My focus was on leading the German nation  
and **establishing a new order in Europe.***

**Churchill:** *Adolf Hitler, your attempts to distance yourself from the atrocities committed under your regime are feeble. Your leadership and the ideology you propagated were directly responsible for the horrors inflicted on innocent civilians and the organized extermination of millions.*

***You, Mr Hitler, will be held accountable for  
these crimes against humanity!***

**Stalin:** *Adolf Hitler, we now turn our attention to your decision to break the **Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact of 1939**, a non-aggression agreement between Nazi Germany and my Soviet Union.*

**(IMPORTANT FOOTNOTE):** The **Molotov- Ribbentrop treaty** was essentially a secret promise between Stalin's Soviet Union and Hitler's Nazi Germany in August of 1939 identifying specific European countries to be separately attacked and occupied by Germany and the Soviet Union. Both Stalin and Hitler promised not to interfere with these attacks NOR help any other country that challenged Germany or the Soviet Union's take over of those European countries. **Roosevelt and Churchill were angry Stalin betrayed them with this secret agreement with Hitler. Roosevelt and Churchill realized Stalin could never be trusted.**

***Why did you attack us, the Soviet Union, on June 22nd, 1941  
after promising not to in 1939?***

*We want to understand your motives for such a significant breach of trust.*

**Hitler:** *the decision to break the **Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact** was a strategic move driven by our need to secure Germany's eastern borders and eliminate a potential threat attack by you Russians.*

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***I never trusted you Russians or whatever you call yourself today!***

***Soviet Union actions in 1939 taking over  
countries of Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania in Eastern Europe  
forced us to attack you, Mr Stalin.***

***We felt threatened by the Soviet Union's takeover  
of these Baltic countries located so close to Germany  
and wondered if we, Germany, would be the next country  
you Russians would attack and take over!***

**Stalin:** *So, you claim that Soviet Union's ACTIONS you once agreed to now caused you to break our pact. What ACTIONS are you referring to, and why didn't you seek a peaceful diplomatic resolution with us rather than military aggression?*



**Hitler:** *The Soviet Union's occupation of the Baltic European states of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania, and the support in these countries for anti-Germany elements were great threats to Germany's security. Diplomatic resolutions had proven futile in the past. So, we believed that*

***a preemptive strike against Russia would ensure  
our safety and protect  
German security and interests.***

**Roosevelt:** *Adolf Hitler, I am troubled by **Stalin's duplicitous** decision to form a secret pact with you, Mr Hitler. Your double cross of your agreement with Stalin demonstrates your untrustworthiness and lack of values. How do you justify violating a treaty that you promised to keep?*

**Hitler:** *The Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact was merely a temporary arrangement that allowed both parties to pursue their objectives. However, the Soviet Union's ambitions and expansionist tendencies taking over other European countries forced my German nation to take action to protect our interests. It was a necessary step*

***to ensure the security and survival of the German people.***

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**De Gaulle:** *Mr Hitler, your excuses ring hollow. Breaking a non-aggression pact reveals a lack of integrity and values. Your actions in breaching this agreement not only endangered the Soviet Union but also further destabilized Europe. How can you justify your lies and such a reckless course of action?*

**Hitler:** *Our priority was the preservation and expansion of the German Reich. We believed that a surprise, preemptive attack on STALIN's Soviet Union would weaken the Soviet Union's power as well as secure Germany's eastern borders. We saw it as a necessary step in achieving Germany's objectives. I never thought we could trust the Russians! I believed 'attack the Russians before they attack you!'*

**Churchill:** *Adolf Hitler, your decision to break the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact displayed a complete disregard for trust, international stability, and the principles of diplomacy. Your aggressive actions further contributed to the escalation of conflict and the loss of countless lives. You will be held accountable for the consequences of this breach and all other crimes committed under your leadership.*

It is interesting to note **TIME MAGAZINE** chose Adolf Hitler as the magazines's annual "**Man of the Year**" in 1939.

**Here is** Time Magazine's explanation for their choice of Adolf Hitler as "**Man of the Year**".

**Time Magazine:** *"Hitler became in 1938 the greatest threatening force that the democratic, freedom-loving world faced in 1939. Hitler's rise began in 1919, when he joined the German Workers Party, which was renamed the Nazi party. Within two years he was the party's leader. In 1933, Hitler became chancellor of Germany and soon consolidated his power, banning other parties and establishing totalitarian rule. He put the unemployed to work in public programs, rebuilt the army and sent Jews, communists and others to concentration camps. On September 1, 1939, Hitler began World War II by invading Poland. By 1941, German troops had become bogged down in their surprise attack on Russia. In 1944, the Allies began their advance on Germany. Hitler lived his final months in a Berlin bunker, committing suicide on April 29, 1945."*

Time Magazine's recognition of Adolf Hitler as '**Man of the Year**' in 1938 was based on Time's editorial policy at the time, which aimed to select **the individual who had the greatest impact on world events, for better or worse, during that particular year**. The '**Man of the Year**' title was not an endorsement or approval of Hitler's actions, ideology, or regime. In 1938, Hitler had indeed made significant waves in global affairs. He had aggressively pursued his expansionist policies, annexing Austria and exerted pressure on Czechoslovakia, culminating in the Munich Agreement. This agreement, while appeasing Hitler, raised concerns about the potential consequences for peace in Europe. Time Magazine recognized Hitler as '**Man of the Year**' based on the sheer influence he wielded and the disruption he caused to the existing world order. Hitler's actions and rhetoric (words) were undeniably influential and transformative, setting the stage for the tumultuous events that unfolded in the years to come. However, it is crucial to note that Time's recognition was not an endorsement of Hitler's ideology, nor did it downplay the atrocities committed under his regime. The "**Man of the Year**" honor was granted based on Hitler's impact on world events, but it did not reflect a moral judgment or approval of his actions. Subsequent events and the full extent of Hitler's crimes against humanity have rightfully condemned his regime and its legacy.

**The "**Final Solution**" referred to**

**Hitler's systematic extermination of Jews and other groups during the **Holocaust****

*and was conceived and authorized by high-ranking officials within Nazi Germany. While Adolf Hitler played a significant role in shaping the anti-Semitic ideology that laid the groundwork for the Final Solution,*

***it is important to note that (we, Time Magazine feel)  
the **Final Solution**  
was a **collaboration** among many individuals  
not just **ONE person**  
in the Nazi regime.***

*The implementation of the Holocaust plan involved multiple government agencies, including the SS (Schutzstaffel) under the leadership of Heinrich Himmler; the Reichssicherheitshauptamt (Reich Main Security Office), and the RSHA (Reichssicherheitshauptamt).*

*Reinhard Heydrich, the chief of the RSHA, is often associated with the coordination and organization of the Final Solution. Heydrich convened the Wannsee Conference in January 1942, where key officials met to discuss and coordinate the logistics of the mass extermination of Jews. However, it is important to note that the Wannsee Conference did not mark the initiation of the Holocaust, as the extermination of Jews had already begun before this meeting. While Heydrich played a crucial role, it is essential to understand that the implementation of the Final Solution involved the collective efforts of various officials and institutions within the Nazi regime. The initiative was a product of the anti-Semitic ideology propagated by Hitler and his inner circle, as well as the bureaucratic machinery of the Nazi state.*

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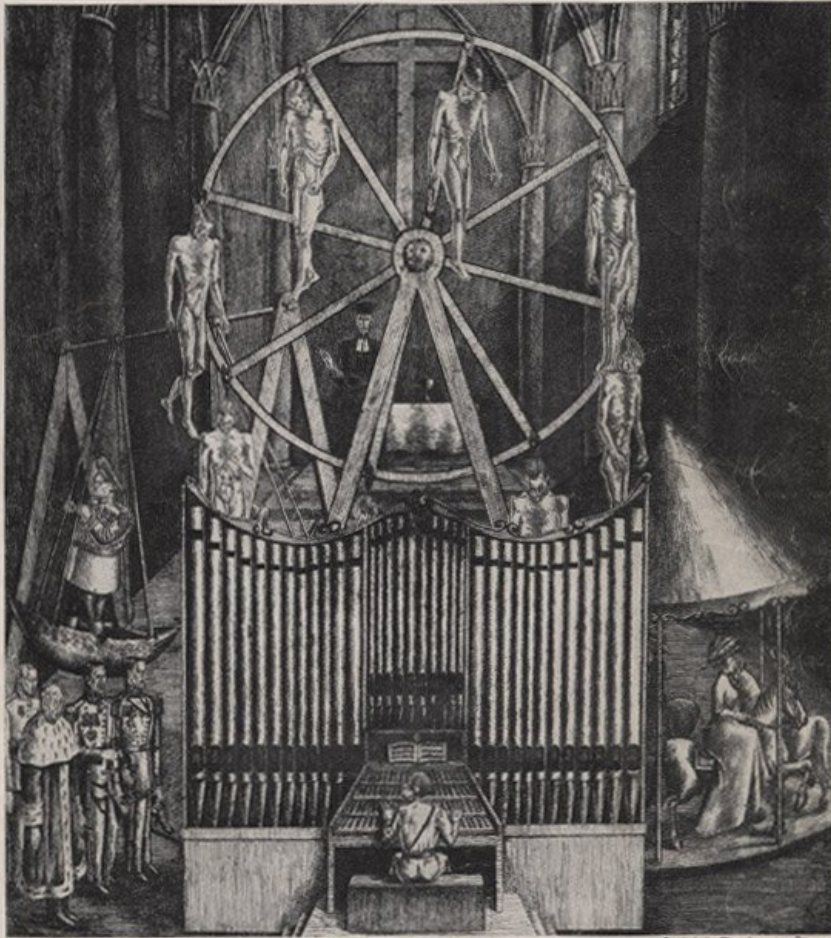
***During the period between 1933 and 1940,  
there were indeed  
individuals in the United States  
who expressed **support for**  
**Adolf Hitler and his ideology.*****

FIFTEEN CENTS

JANUARY 2, 1939

# TIME

THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE



Radolph Charles von Ripper

## MAN OF 1938

From the unholy organist, a hymn of hate.  
(Foreign News)



FIFTEEN CENTS

April 11, 1938

# TIME

*The Weekly Newsmagazine*



*The Final Wolf, from Black '38*

Volume XXVII

ADOLF HITLER

1938

(See Front Cover)

Number 15

*Circulation this issue more than 400,000*

*It is important to note, however, that the Americans supporting anti-Semitism did not represent mainstream American sentiment, and their support was not widespread.*

***One prominent American who did express admiration for Hitler was  
Charles Lindbergh,  
a famous aviator and public figure.***

*Lindbergh, famous for his solo airplane flight from New York to Paris, France, in 1927, was sympathetic to Nazi Germany and believed that Hitler's policies were good for Germany's national interests. He publicly stated the United States should not get involved in World War II. When Lindbergh went to Germany to watch the 1936 Olympic games in Berlin, Nazi officials greeted Lindbergh as a celebrity. In 1938, Hugh Wilson, the American ambassador to Germany, hosted a dinner for Lindbergh in Germany with Germany's air chief, General Hermann Göring. At this dinner, Göring presented Lindbergh with the Commander Cross of the Order of the German Eagle. Lindbergh accepted the award which became controversial since the Nazi Party began carrying out a nation-wide anti-Jewish pogrom (an organized massacre of a group of people) which is*



Lindbergh receiving the Commander Cross of the Order of the German Eagle from Nazi General Goring.



# WANTED

INFORMATION AS TO THE  
WHEREABOUTS OF



## CHAS. A. LINDBERGH, JR.

OF HOPEWELL, N. J.

### SON OF COL. CHAS. A. LINDBERGH

World-Famous Aviator

This child was kidnaped from his home  
in Hopewell, N. J., between 8 and 10 p. m.  
on Tuesday, March 1, 1932.

#### DESCRIPTION:

Age, 20 months

Hair, blond, curly

Weight, 27 to 30 lbs.

Eyes, dark blue

**left photo of Charles Linderberg.** The first successful non-stop transatlantic flight from New York to Paris was accomplished by Charles Lindbergh. On May 20-21, 1927, Lindbergh flew solo from New York, to Paris, France. His aircraft, named *the Spirit of St. Louis*, completed the journey in approximately 33.5 hours, covering a distance of around 3,600 miles. This historic flight made Lindbergh an international hero. **Right photo:** on the evening of March 1, 1932, the 20 month old son of Charles Linderberg was abducted from his crib in the Lindberghs' home in New Jersey. A man who claimed to be the kidnapper and demanded and received a cash ransom of \$50,000 on April 2. On May 12, the child's remains were found in woods not far from the Lindbergh home. The case was called the "*Crime of the Century*" and was described by H. L. Mencken, a famous American journalist, cultural critic, and author, as "*the biggest story since the Resurrection*". Richard Hauptmann, a 34-year-old German immigrant, was arrested near his home in the Bronx, New York, on September 19, 1934, after paying for gasoline with one of the ransom bills. \$13,760 of the ransom money and other evidence was found in his home. Hauptmann went on trial for kidnapping, murder and extortion on January 2, 1935. He was convicted on February 13,[158] sentenced to death, and electrocuted at Trenton State Prison on April 3, 1936.

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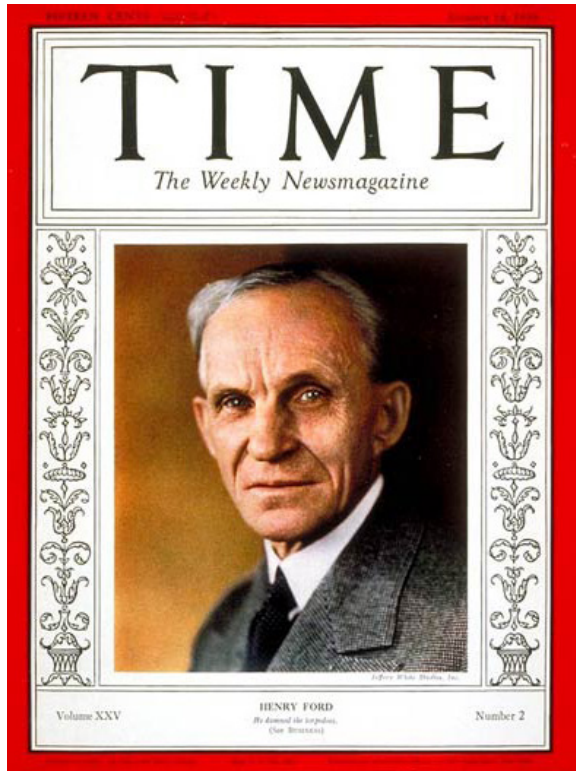
*now considered the beginning of the Holocaust, the genocide of the Jews and other races of people deemed 'inferior' by Hitler.*

*Another figure associated with sympathies toward Hitler was  
**Henry Ford,**  
the founder of Ford Motor Company.*



Ford had a history of expressing anti-Semitic views, and his writings and activities during this period were seen by some as supportive of Hitler's regime. **Ford's newspaper, The Dearborn Independent**, published articles promoting **anti-Semitic** conspiracy theories and spreading **misinformation**. Henry Ford did not want the United States to get involved in World War II. He was also a critic of President Roosevelt.

It is important to point out **Lindbergh** and **Ford's** views were met with significant **criticism** and opposition from many Americans. The United States as a whole, un-



**Left photo** In July of 1938, Time Magazine cover featuring stories on Ford and the Ford Motor Company. **Right Photo** is a image of the **Grand Cross of the German Eagle**, the highest medal Nazi Germany could bestow on a foreigner. The German consul in Cleveland, Ohio presented this award to Henry Ford, on his 75th birthday, also in July of 1938. James D. Mooney, vice president of overseas operations for General Motors, received a similar medal, the Merit Cross of the German Eagle, First Class.



**Photo:** Ford made airplanes for the US military during World War I AND World War II.



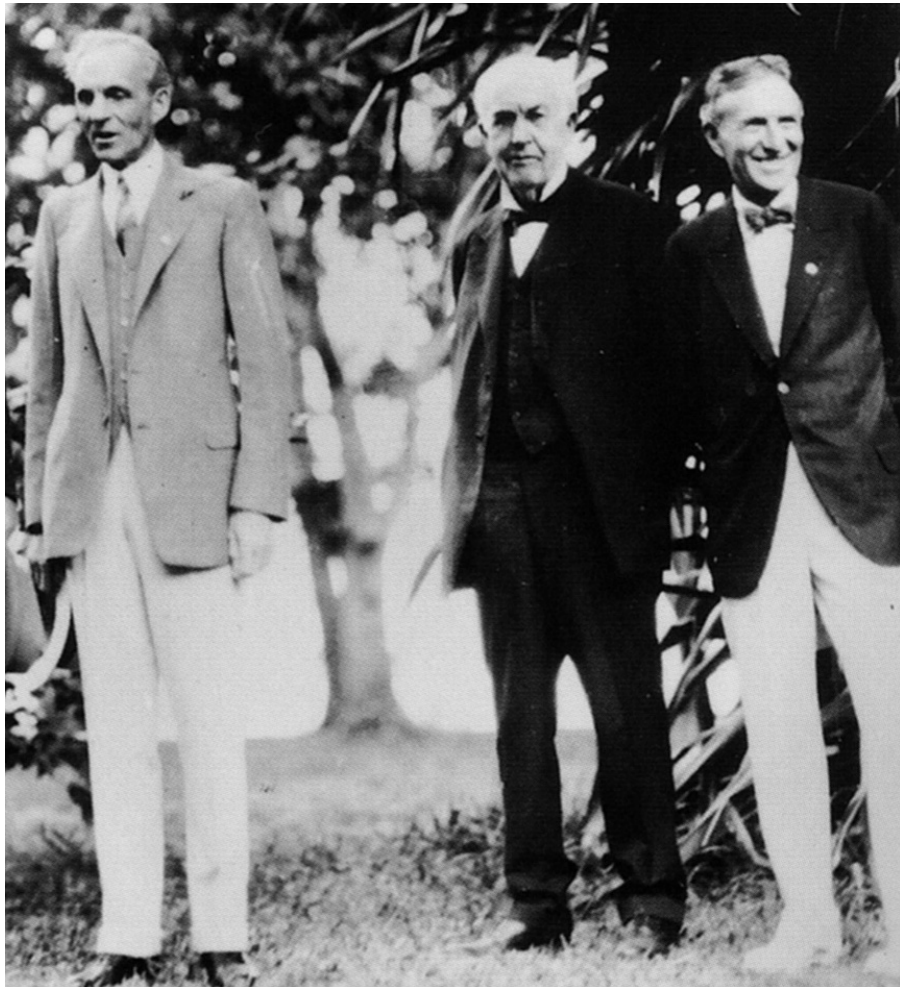


Photo: left to right - Henry Ford, Thomas Edison and Harvey Firestone in 1929

*der the leadership of Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman, opposed Hitler's ideology and criticized Hitler's brutal practices. The American government and the majority of the American people supported anti-fascist and anti-Nazi efforts, especially after the outbreak of World War II in 1939.*

*It is important to note the support for Hitler and his beliefs did not represent the feelings of most Americans or the government. The overwhelming feeling in the United States was opposition to Nazi Germany and its actions."*

***Time Magazine*** did publish critical articles about Hitler.

## Postscript

**The Einsatzgruppen trial** was the 9<sup>th</sup> of 12 trials prosecuting Nazi perpetrators of specific '*crimes against humanity*' after World War II from September 29, 1947, to April 10, 1948, in Nuremberg, Germany. These twelve trials were conducted by the United States and **focused on the Holocaust**.

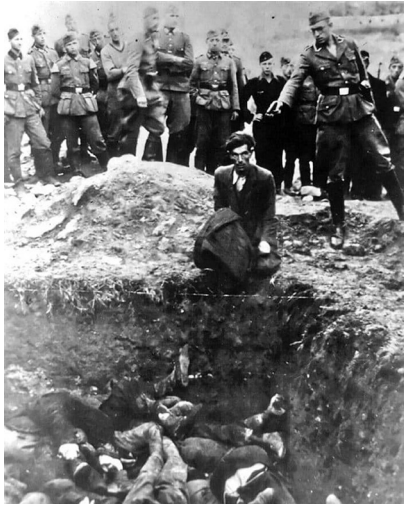


Photo shows a **Einsatzgruppen** soldier murdering a Jew kneeling before a filled mass grave in Vinnitsa, Ukraine, in 1942.

### The Holocaust was the **genocide** of European Jews during World War II.

Between 1941 and 1945, Nazi Germany and its collaborators murdered 6 million Jews throughout Nazi Germany-occupied Europe. This amounted to **2/3rds of all Jews living in Europe**. The murders were carried out through mass shootings and poison gas in extermination camps, like **Auschwitz-Birkenau, Treblinka, Belzec, Sobibor, and Chelmno** in occupied Poland.

The Nazis initially tried to force all German Jews to emigrate from Europe by passing '*anti-Jewish laws*' and a nationwide **pogrom** in November 1938. After Germany invaded Poland in September 1939, the Nazi's forced Jews to live in **ghettos** to punish and segregate them from the rest of the population. Following the invasion of the Soviet Union in June 1941, 1.5 to 2 million Jews were shot by German soldiers and local collaborators within the countries they occupied.

Later in 1941 or early 1942, Hitler and his Nazi deputies **decided to murder ALL JEWS in Europe**. Jews of all ages were arrested and transported by train to extermination camps where most were killed by poison gas. Other Jews were forced to work in harsh labor camps; many died from starvation or exhaustion

### **The Einsatzgruppen were a Nazi SS mobile death squad**

operating behind the front lines of the war in countries the Nazi's occupied in Eastern Europe. Between 1941 and 1945, the **Einsatzgruppen** murdered about 2 million people: 1.3 million Jews, up to 250,000 Romani, and around 500,000 so-called "*partisans*", people with disabilities, opposing politicians, Slavs, Soviet (Russian) officials, homosexuals and others.

There were 24 SS death squad members charged in the **Einsatzgruppen** trial, all pleading “*not guilty*”. The SS acronym stood for ‘Schutzstaffel’, a German word meaning “*Protection Squadron*”. Under **Heinrich Himmler**’s leadership, the SS were the major intimidation and killing force for the Nazi Party. **Himmler reported directly to ‘the Fuhrer’,** Adolf Hitler. The SS carried out Hitler’s racial policies, particularly during the **Holocaust**. The SS was responsible for establishing and operating concentration camps, including the infamous **Auschwitz** and **Dachau** camps. The SS became a symbol of terror during the Nazi era; its members were involved in many war crimes and human rights abuses.

The **Chief Prosecutor for the United States** in the Einsatzgruppen trial was **Benjamin Ferencz**, a diminutive, Jewish American, lawyer only 27 years old. United States Army General and Chief Counsel, Telford Taylor, appointed Ferencz as Chief Prosecutor.



TOP PHOTO - Benjamin Ferencz in 1947.  
BOTTOM PHOTO - Mr Ferencz 2012;  
he died - April 7, 2023



The tribunal found **14 of the defendants guilty and sentenced to death by hanging; the remaining 10 were sentenced to various prison terms**. Of the 14 death sentences, only four were carried out; the others were commuted to prison terms of varying lengths in 1951. In 1958, all the living incarcerated convicts were released from prison.



**click on this QR code to watch a  
2021 interview of  
Benjamin Ferencz  
about the Einsatzgruppen Trial.**

## FINAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- PLEASE remember, all your questions have merit. There are no silly or bad questions or comments in this class even if they are critical of me. If you are curious about something, RESPECTFULLY ask the question. If you want to express an opinion, RESPECTFULLY state it. All questions and comments will be **anonymous** through the Menti app, i.e. **no one will know who asks a question or makes a statement** when using the **Menti app**.
- All your questions, opinions and comments will go through the **Menti app** and thus **will be anonymous**, i.e. **no one knows who asks the question or makes the comment**.
- Please **begin** this exercise by responding, through the Menti app, to **these questions**:

**1. Did you find this text, “*The Interrogation of Adolf Hitler*”, interesting or boring?** Please be candid in your answer. AND, your **answers should be stated in complete sentences** - for example, “*I found the text boring because I did not see anything relevant about Adolf Hitler’s Germany to my life today.*” OR, “*I found the text very interesting because I never knew about eugenics and how leaders of countries, including the United States, actually believed this ideology and supported immigration laws and regulations supporting eugenics.*”

**2. Did you feel more comfortable than previous classes asking questions and stating your comments because each could be stated anonymously through the Menti app?** Please state your answers in **complete sentences**. For example, “*no, Menti didn’t help. I still felt uncomfortable asking questions. I’m always worried someone will identify my questions and think they’re stupid even though I want to find the answers.*” OR, “*yes, Menti made me comfortable asking questions for answers I wanted. I like Menti; wish other classes used it.*” OR, “*no, I’m never afraid to ask questions.*”

**3. Please identify ONE FACT which informed you of something you were not aware of before reading this text.** Please state your answers in **complete sentences**. For example - “*I did not know there were famous, influential Americans like Henry Ford, the founder of the Ford Motor Company, who had anti-Semitic feelings. Furthermore, I am troubled that American Presidents like Democrat President Woodrow Wilson supported eugenics theory and had racist tendencies. So too, Republican Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts supported immigration laws intended to prevent immigrants from southern Italy from entering America in the 1920s.*”

**4. Please ask your question or state your comment(s).** For example, questions like - “*Why didn’t America try to stop Hitler after his Nazi army started attacking other*



European countries early in the War like 1938 when the Nazi's invaded the independent country of Austria or 1939 when Germany attacked Poland or at least when Hitler started bombing England, America's closest ally, on September 7, 1940 ..... "why did President Roosevelt and England Prime Minister Winston Churchill keep the Soviet Union, under the leader Josef Stalin, part of the Allied Alliance after Stalin made a secret deal with Hitler in the **Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact of 1939**?" ....

....."what does the word '**partisan**' mean?.....

"are there examples **TODAY (2023)** of '**partisan media**' OR '**partisan leaders**'?"

..... "what does the word '**genocide**' mean?.....

"..... has anyone in the world ever thought the United States of America ever practiced any form of '**racial hygiene**' or '**genocide**' during its history? .....

"did President Roosevelt ever consider using the atomic bomb against Germany".....

"who was the German scientist that former **Boston Red Sox** player turned **Ameri-**



**Moe Berg** - Major League Baseball player and American spy working for the OSS, a precursor of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) during World War II. Berg's baseball card is the only baseball card on display at the headquarters of the CIA. Born 1902 / died 1972.

**can government spy** (OSS), **Moe Berg**, was sent to spy on in 1944 and instructed either to kidnap, assassinate or do nothing after determining how close the Germans were to producing their own atomic bomb?" **OR comments like** - the United States should have attacked Germany in 1936 when Germany's military was not strong! We could have easily defeated Germany and saved millions of lives in the process.....I see some similarities between Germany's attacks and occupation of European countries during World War II and Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2023..... '**War; i.e. armed, destructive conflict, should be a last resort for nations to resolve differences. Countries should resolve differences through diplomacy (conversation and compromise) before risking soldiers' and civilian lives in combat.....**

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- ♦ *ChatGPT*

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*“The real value of history  
is  
its **relevance** to the present.*

*Without **relevance**,  
history’s as useless  
‘as lips on a woodpecker.’ ”*