

## Chapter 1 : History of Germany, The Third Reich,

*Withstanding Hitler in Germany, [Michael Balfour] -- Withstanding Hitler examines the problem of German acquiescence in Nazi ascendancy. It is an insightful, heartbreaking, and riveting account of those who committed their lives to resistance.*

Shown from left to right in this propaganda photograph are Huber a minor SS functionary , with Arthur Nebe, and then three of the people most responsible for the Holocaust: According to the apparently archival caption, these men are planning the investigation of the bomb assassination attempt on Adolf Hitler on 8 November in Munich later revealed to have been performed by Georg Elser. This began the process of turning Nebe against the Nazis. His aversion to Reinhard Heydrich and Himmler grew even though he continued to regularly lunch with them. Nebe was appointed head of the Kriminalpolizei Kripo. As head of the Kripo, Nebe reported to Heydrich. In , Nebe joined forces with future fellow conspirator Dr. Nebe supplied the conspirators with information regarding SS strength, logistics, and safehouses throughout the Berlin area. Of his work in the east, historian Gerald Reitlinger stated: It is reputed that this selection caused Nebe distress. On learning it was distasteful to the troops, Himmler wanted Nebe to come up with something less distressing. Nebe decided to try experimenting by murdering Soviet mental patients first with explosives near Minsk and then with automobile exhaust at Mogilev. Bernd Wehner of the RKPA claimed Nebe was worried the Allies would punish him for his crimes, and that this was the only reason he joined the resistance. Advertisements plot against Adolf Hitler Arthur Nebe was involved in various plots including the July 20, , bomb plot against German dictator Adolf Hitler. As part of the plot, Nebe was to lead a team of 12 policemen to kill Himmler but the signal never reached him. Erinnerungen an Hitlers Reichskriminaldirektor. Withstanding Hitler in Germany, The Secret War Against Hitler. The SS -- Alibi of a Nation German Resistance to Hitler.

Chapter 2 : Michael Balfour - Wikipedia, la enciclopedia libre

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However, some could take it as National Socialism. Despite an alliance with other nations, mainly Italy and Japan, that together formed the Axis powers, Germany had lost the war and ceased to exist. If you look at it you see that the statement that Germany ceased to exist is challenged, and thus needs a more nuanced presentation, and also if you look closely at the sources used to support it you get a feeling of WP: Synthesis, since none of them is a source that focuses on the issue of the legal status of Germany after the military surrender, rather they are snippets from documents focusing on other issues. By January the Nazi state was being invaded on both sides by Allied armies. The rest of the information is at least plausible, but the source is a book review in a non-scholarly publication, so we need better evidence. "Legal Terror in Nazi Germany," provides imprisonment statistics for the period. The total imprisoned for all causes was highest in 1942. Looking at his graph makes it clear that the 3 million figure is grossly inflated. Anyway that is a very narrow analysis you are making. Are you assuming that once you were imprisoned you never got out? Based on the Book of Wachsman, what was the total number of Germans who had been temporarily imprisoned for political reasons at one time or another, as for example Konrad Adenauer was? Only if you can answer that will you be able to do a "semi" reliable OR comparison of the sources. Obviously a much larger number of people have been in prison the last 15 years in for example the US than the current number of actual prison inmates in the US. In either case, you are basing the deletion on OR. Some comparative OR of my own, see the end of this page [1] for example, although you see no numbers it should give you an inkling of Nazi tactics, scare the general population by putting representative samples of them in the camps for a while, after that they, and their friends, will stay productive, docile and obedient. Now, he does cite the figure of 3 million, as the number that "saw the inside of a camp or prison during the twelve years of Nazi rule" but that is exactly my point. The 3 million figure is everyone, for whatever reason, not just people arrested for political reasons. "Varieties of German Resistance in the Third Reich", p. 10. You did not need to have been "found guilty on political grounds" to be imprisoned for political reasons. Again, look at the Konrad Adenauer article, he was imprisoned twice, but both times released after a while, and never found guilty of anything apparently. Another book that directly cites Almond on the 3 million is Otis C. That was a year in which lots of people were arrested, which makes the 3 million figure implausible. I also checked the other sources I could find that cite the claim but several do assert the figure is for political cases, but none so far provides a reference to a source that actually documents that. The current form of article looks like a war time anti-German propaganda! What do you want next? If Hitler was not a good guy, he was not worse than Stalin, Churchill and Roosevelt. All three were blood-thirsty, power-hungry guys. Does this NOT neutral point of view at the moment, apply to their articles too? I guess you already know Jesse Owens. Here are some of his statements: Hitler must have gone crazy watching us embrace. The sad part of the story is I never saw Long again. He was killed in World War II. Roosevelt who snubbed me. The sources in the article are either reliable secondary sources or you may challenge and eventually remove them. If you have reliable secondary sources that support a different perspective than what the article currently portrays then you should discuss those sources and how to best include the information. If you cannot provide reliable sources to advocate a change of the article then the neutrality tag will be removed. If you believe the article is factually biased it is up to you to show why, if you cannot then your assertion of a lack of neutrality has no basis. Since when did Nazi Germany become an empire? Hitler might be a dictator, but he was not an emperor. "Blodance the Seeker" I believe Reich in German can translate directly to Empire in English. The direct equivalent of "Reich", would be "Nation". And being a successor state of an empire does not necessarily imply that it is an empire itself - see Soviet Union. Even if they are labeled as an empire like "American Empire" and so on, it is incorrect to describe it as a "governmental structure". One might also want to notice that the official name of Weimar Republic is also "Deutsches Reich", yet no one argued that Weimar Republic is an empire. German Reich is better referenced. Reich can mean empire. Yes, it can mean empire, but one cannot claim that it is an empire simply because the word can mean empire. Also, they do have

specific terms meaning "Empire" "Kaiserreich", see de: Republic of China succeeds Qing Dynasty. And as you can see, the Nazis seek to regain their "lost" territories and form the "Grossdeutschland" Greater Germany. As such, I would even agree to translate "Drittes Reich" into "Third Empire" - but like "American Empire", its a label, not "governmental structure". Placing "Empire" under "Government" is utterly misleading. P Blodance the Seeker Moreover, the alliance with Japan proved to be an actual disadvantage in the end. It should probably be changed. Why have Croatia singled out in blue for the map in the article infobox? I suggest that it would be a good idea to revert the change. I suggest a map that only shows territory that was actually a part of germany, all occupied states, enemies and allies sould be gray. Why not on the talk page for that map? Its deceptive that Finland is in its influence or occupation sphere which was certainly not the case. It still does not explain why Finland is portrayed as if being in the influence sphere of Nazi Germany. Finland was a co-belligerent with Germany not an ally. The caption to the map, "Nazi Germany at its height in ," is very misleading. What the map shows are Germany itself with its protectorates General Gouvernement and Bohemia and Moravia in red, Italy and its territories in green, and then the large orange region which is a combination of regions occupied militarily by Germany and states that may not have been occupied at all but were friendly to Germany. The caption pretends that all of that area was annexed to Germany, which is a very ignorant assumption. Even without the caption, however, there is still a problem with the map insofar as it blurs distinctions about the relationship to Germany of the various countries colored in orange. For example, France during most of was a neutral country, with German troops occupying the north by agreement. The way this map is made represents a simplistic Allied propagandist view of the war. In Lybia, the Afrika Korps failed to break should be: EN suggests that the common English term should be used as the article title. Popular opinion is shaped by mass-media, and where a war is concerned, there is always a residue of war-propaganda. It seems to me that the origin of the term Nazi among enemies of National-Socialism ought to carry some weight in assessing whether it is an objective term or a term that is colored by a POV. That seems like common sense to me, but Oh well, this is Wikipedia. List off all the educated people you know who call the Nazis the "National Socialists" on a regular basis. The formal Names of the countries would be, i. North German Union i. Greater German Reich i. Why not show a version of the map? The old one focused exclusively on German territory by law: The new map shows that, Italy, and all German occupations: Is this the "previous one" you are referring to? In addition to Germany it identifies two categories: It seems to me that the legend should identify Italian territory as "allied" to Germany and the other areas only as "conquests. The best map to probably use is File: Non-English maps are used elsewhere. I have changed the lead map to file: I have tried to make the core area more prominent and the surrounding areas less distracting. I can try and find the time to change the text to English, or language neutral. I can introduce Hitler as an egomaniacal mass murdering totalitarian despot dictator in the first sentence and nobody would say a word, nobody! But people keep edit warring and adding on all the other junk which which looks completely out of place "Totalitarian autocratic national socialist dictatorship". It says and should say Please either "fix" it up by using et al. Below the map File: That would be the correct form in German; it is called like this at the top of the containing table too. Bye, another user of the IP Done Good catch Lars T.

**Chapter 3 : General Military - Hitlers Eagles, The Luftwaffe - PDF Free Download**

*Withstanding Hitler in Germany, 1. Withstanding Hitler in Germany, by Michael Balfour Print book: Biography: English. London ; New York.*

Refusing to follow Nazi orders brought swift, brutal punishment and often death. Few people had the courage to resist. Yet Franz Jaggerstatter, an Austrian farmer with a wife and three young daughters, did show such courage—even when everyone around him said he should go along with the Nazis. He refused to enter military service because he believed it would violate his religious beliefs, knowing very well that his refusal would lead to his execution. Since his death, Jaggerstatter has become a strong role model for other conscientious objectors those who refuse to fight and kill others on religious or moral grounds. A lively young man Jaggerstatter was born in the rural town of St. Bachmeier was killed in while fighting in World War I In , Rosalia married a farmer named Jaggerstatter, who adopted young Franz and began to instill in him a love of books and reading. Franz attended the local school in St. Radegund, and as he grew up he gained a reputation as a lively—or even wild— young man who enjoyed games, dancing, and driving his motorcycle the first one seen in St. Radegund loudly around the village streets. When he was twenty years old, Franz went away for three years to work in the iron ore industry in Steiermark, Austria. Then he returned to St. Radegund and began farming. Experiences religious awakening In Franz married a local girl named Franziska. The couple traveled to Rome for their honeymoon, and during that time in Italy Franz experienced a renewal of his Roman Catholic faith. Radegund, Franz continued his farm work. During the next few years, three daughters were born to the Jaggerstatters. It was during this period that Jaggerstatter had a frightening dream about "a beautiful train" that was "going to hell. Jaggerstatter was alarmed at the way everybody around him seemed eager to jump on this train and join the Nazis, and he shared his views and his distrust of Hitler with his friends and neighbors at local gatherings. Jaggerstatter was the only person in St. Radegund to vote against the Anschluss, or the joining together of the two countries. A difficult decision Jaggerstatter received his first call to military duty in June Despite his doubts about Hitler and National Socialism , he reported for duty, but was released in because his farm work was deemed more important than military service at that time. Meanwhile, he thought more about the conflict between his religious beliefs and fighting for a system he did not support. Jaggerstatter was not a pacifist a person who does not believe in fighting or killing others for any reason ; in fact, he stated that he would have become a soldier in an instant if Austrians had chosen to oppose, rather than join, the Nazis. But it was becoming more and more clear to him that he could not kill in the name of Hitler and his followers. In February Jaggerstatter received his second call to military duty. Still struggling with his conscience, he consulted the Catholic bishop in the nearby town of Linz. He asked the bishop, "Who can be a soldier for Christ and a soldier for National Socialism at the same time? Nevertheless, Jaggerstatter went to the local induction center where military recruits signed up for service and told the commanding officer that he had decided to refuse to serve in the military. Jaggerstatter was arrested and taken to the prison in Linz, then transferred to the Brandenburg Prison in Berlin. Explains his position in letters from prison While waiting for his trial, Jaggerstatter wrote several letters to his friends and loved ones, as well as a statement explaining why he had taken such an unusual and dangerous stance. In a letter to his three daughters the oldest of whom was not yet six , he wrote: But you know we must love God even more than family, and we must lose everything dear and worthwhile on earth rather than commit even the slightest offense against God. And if I must write them with my hands in chains, I find that much better than if my will were in chains. Neither prison nor chains nor sentence of death can rob a man of the Faith and his free will. Even the judges attempted to talk Jaggerstatter out of his position, but he continued to assert that he would not fight for National Socialism. On August 9, , Jaggerstatter was beheaded at Brandenburg Prison. His remains were cremated and buried on the prison grounds. Back home in St. Radegund, he was regarded as a religious fanatic, and his wife was criticized for not forcing him to change his mind. For almost twenty years, Jaggerstatter was remembered only by his closest survivors. Zahn had learned of Father Franz Reinisch, a Catholic priest executed in for refusing to pledge unconditional obedience to Hitler, from another priest, Father Kreuzberg. Radegund and interviewed

his widow and others who had known him. *The Life and Death of Franz Jaggerstatter* was published. In Austria, public opinion about Jaggerstatter remained mixed, but much of the rest of the world embraced him as a religious martyr a person who makes a great sacrifice for the sake of a belief or principle and role model. His name was also cited when, in , the United Nations expanded the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to include a provision for conscientious objection. Streets in Vienna, Linz, and other Austrian cities have been named for him, celebrations in his honor have been held, and a petition has been submitted to the Vatican to have him named a saint. *The Life and Death of Franz Jaggerstatter*. Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, Periodicals Jabusch, Willard F. Web sites Putz, Erna. "Franz Jaggerstatter" translated by Michael Duggan. What Is a Conscientious Objector? A conscientious objector is a person who refuses to participate in a war because his or her own conscience tells him or her that it would be wrong to take part. This stand may be based on religion some religions believe that violence and war are never justified , politics a person may disagree with the reason a country has gone to war , or philosophy someone may object to the idea of war without being a follower of a religion. There are several types of objectors. Some refuse to serve in combat but will agree to perform noncombatant duties, while others also refuse noncombatant service but will work in civilian jobs rather than fight. A third type of objector, often called an absolutist, not only refuses to fight but also to accept any alternative to fighting. Conscientious objectors have existed throughout history. The ancient religions of Buddhism and Jainism which date back to the sixth century before Christ were based on nonviolence, and the early Christians refused to serve in the Roman army. During the Middle Ages , Christians began to see a difference between just and unjust wars. After the Protestant religions broke off from the Roman Catholic Church , some of them began to include conscientious objection in their beliefs. These included the Mennonites, the Society of Friends or Quakers, and the Brethren, all of which still exist and still promote nonviolence. Indian leader Mohandas K. Gandhi, who took a nonviolent stand as he led his country to independence, had a major influence on the way people viewed the conscientious objector. Now groups like the Fellowship of Reconciliation and War Resisters International try to provide support for those who refused to fight. The United States did not have a draft by which qualified young men are required to serve in the armed forces before World War I , except during the Civil War , when an objector was allowed to send someone to war in his own place. During World War I, U. These objectors still had to report to duty, but they were assigned to noncombatant units. Some of those who refused noncombatant service were sent to work on farms, while many absolutists were imprisoned. Conscientious objectors in Austria-Hungary and Germany were sent to insane asylums, while those in France were often shot as deserters. United States law recognized those who refused to fight "by reason of religious training and belief," but those who objected on political or philosophical grounds were excluded. Objectors performed alternative service in such areas as reforestation, flood control, soil conservation, dairy testing, and caring for mental patients. About 6, absolutists were imprisoned. Great Britain had the same three categories of objectors as the United States no combat, no noncombatant service, no service whatsoever but conscientious objector status could be claimed on religious, political, or philosophical grounds. Cite this article Pick a style below, and copy the text for your bibliography.

Chapter 4 : Formats and Editions of Withstanding Hitler in Germany, [www.nxgvision.com]

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Once deprived of their Bf escorts, the German bombers were acutely vulnerable to the predations of British Spitfires and Hurricanes. It is not difficult to see why. Like many aspects of the German war machine, the Luftwaffe was a crowning achievement of the German rearmament programme. During the 1930s and early 1940s, the air force was a shadowy organization, operating furtively under the tight restrictions on military development imposed by the Versailles Treaty. It also gained pre combat experience during the Spanish Civil War 1936-39, which helped it to refine tactics and technology before testing them on an even larger scale over Poland and Western Europe in 1939. The traumatic defeats experienced by the Allies during these first years of war are in no small measure due to the capabilities of the Luftwaffe as a tactical air force. While the superb Messerschmitt Bf 109 achieved air supremacy and inflicted attrition on Allied air fleets, Junkers Ju 87 dive-bombers acted as precision-attack flying artillery ahead of advancing ground forces and Heinkel He 111, Junkers Ju 88 and other bombers pounded broader targets. Aviators grew in confidence, and some became literal celebrities as they racked up dozens of kills and missions. Warning signs were there from the start, however. Although the Polish Air Force, for example, was crushed in relatively short order, unescorted German bombers and divebombers still proved vulnerable to fighters, even obsolete Polish biplanes. Yet the failures over Britain would soon be forgotten, and eclipsed, by the enormity of the victories over the Soviet Union in 1941, during the opening phases of Operation Barbarossa. Despite facing a numerically greater opponent, the Luftwaffe was utterly dominant during the first six months of Barbarossa, and would remain ascendant for the next three years. On the first day of operations alone, it is possible that the German Air Force destroyed more than 1,000 Soviet aircraft. The young Erich Hartmann, the greatest of all the German fighter aces, destroyed enemy aircraft during his astonishing combat career, mainly while flying a Bf 109 over the Eastern Front. Bomber aircraft helped reduce cities like Leningrad and Stalingrad to smoking rubble, while Ju 87s some fitted with 37mm cannon as dedicated tank-busters continued to take a toll on Soviet troops, vehicles and positions. The transport arm did its best to keep troops resupplied across thousands of kilometres of front, although its failure to maintain the encircled 6th Army in the total output of military aircraft was 8,000 aircraft. In 1945, by contrast, the production figure was a stunning 39,000 units. So with such figures in mind, why was it that the Luftwaffe progressively lost air superiority on all fronts between 1942 and 1945? As we shall see, there is no denying the scale of the nemesis that visited the Luftwaffe in the later years of the war. The Allied strategic bombing campaign not only brought unprecedented levels of destruction against the German homeland; it also diverted huge volumes of Luftwaffe aircraft into a fight to the death above the skies of the Reich. The losses inflicted upon the Allied aircraft were profound, and the process of countering the heavy bombers produced new radar-equipped night-fighters, such as the Bf G-4, and the first generations of jet aircraft such as the Me 262. Yet, ultimately, such aircraft were not enough to stem the endless tide of Allied aircraft. This book is not only a history of the various elements of the Luftwaffe. It will also paint a detailed portrait of the men and machines who fought and served with the German Air Force from its origins to its defeat. As we shall see, the Luftwaffe was a broad organization. It encompassed not only combat and transport aircraft, and their related personnel, but also anti-aircraft AA units, field divisions, paratroop forces and fire service teams. It was at the cutting edge of the strategic and tactical developments of the Wehrmacht Armed Forces, and provided the world with the first true glimpse of the power of coordinated air and land forces. By this time, the Luftwaffe had cast off years of secrecy to openly flaunt its major rearmament programme and new aircraft technologies. Not surprisingly, the terms of the Versailles Treaty were viewed differently by the two sides involved. The victorious Allies saw them as stringent but justified. The German population, however, regarded them as harsh and repressive. This fact was seized upon by many anti-government politicians in post-war Germany, not least among them Adolf Hitler. Agreements between Germany and the USSR at the Treaty of Rapallo in 1922 led to the establishment of clandestine air training facilities at Lipetsk, Russia, by and throughout Germany the

formation of innocuous gliding clubs enabled thousands of young men to gain experience in basic aircraft handling. Civil aviation was not prohibited in Germany, so the pilots from this establishment could legitimately go on to employment in the Deutsche Luft Hansa Aktiengesellschaft, the German airline formed in it became simply Lufthansa in . During the first half of the s, Lufthansa used aircraft that would eventually become Luftwaffe types – the Junkers Ju 52, the Ju 86 and the Heinkel He – making it an easy business to introduce combat training into the programme. Through such means, Germany was able to begin rebuilding its air force. Foreign suspicions grew beyond doubt, but the British and the French, caught up in broader political and economic struggles, did little to resist the military expansion. Such lax policing was a source of encouragement to Hitler when he took the Chancellorship in , and he immediately set about his goal of reconstructing the German armed forces. Nevertheless, just the process of building a new air force presented a mountain of difficulties, as Williamson Murray has noted: Only a tiny cadre of experienced officers existed within the Army and Navy; Lufthansa experience was not directly convertible into a military force; and the German aircraft industry, weakened not only by the depression but also by internecine quarrels amongst its almost Five of the formative characters behind the development and command of the Luftwaffe: Investment went into developing aircraft, training men and refining tactics. Gliders were a long way from powered aircraft in terms of performance, but they gave thousands of young men the basic understanding of aviation that would inform subsequent combat skills. He publicly announced the formation of the new Luftwaffe. For both operational and economic reasons, priority was given to the creation of a tactical air force suitable for close support of ground offensives during a short, aggressive war. This strategic policy is crucial to the subsequent history of the Luftwaffe in World War II, for the death of Generalleutnant Walter Wever in June effectively sealed the fate of the Luftwaffe bomber arm. His successor, Albert Kesselring, instead evolved a vast fleet of generalpurpose medium bombers, functioning primarily in the operational role. His vanity meant he often overcommitted or misunderstood the capabilities of both men and aircraft. The Spanish Civil War provided the Luftwaffe with a virtual laboratory for developing aerial combat tactics in the run-up to the onset of World War II. The purely tactical operations would be covered by the Sturzkampfflugzeug dive-bomber , in which the high command invested near total faith. High-altitude bombing was considered costly and imprecise, with much, if not all, of the bomb load falling wide of its intended target as later evidenced by the comparatively messy Allied bombing patterns. Two-engined bombers such as the Heinkel He , Dornier Do 17 and Junkers Ju 88 provided flexible bombing platforms against both area and tactical point targets. Convinced of its war-winning properties by operational trials in Spain, the Reichsluftfahrtministerium National Air Ministry; RLM cancelled all long-range bomber developments in favour of the Stuka. Dive capability became a prerequisite of all future bomber designs, and was eagerly applied to anything that might be capable of withstanding such extreme manoeuvres; even existing medium bombers were modified and tested, often with predictably tragic results. Consequently, the Kampffgeschwader bomber forces were only ever equipped for rapid, but ultimately unsustainable, victory. The outbreak of the Spanish Civil War in July provided Hitler with an early opportunity to test out his nascent air force. In response, Joseph Stalin despatched a Soviet expeditionary force, including nearly aircraft, to support the Republican Government. This in turn prompted Hitler to increase his aid to the Nationalists, and in November the Legion Condor, a standing force of some first-line aircraft plus supporting troops, was established on Spanish soil. The following month the Italian dictator Benito Mussolini created a similar, albeit smaller, force for service alongside the Nationalists. With the Republicans bolstered by the Communist-organized International Brigades, all the main protagonists were in place, the battle lines had been drawn and the fighting started to rapidly escalate. However, operations in Spain had already provided some unwelcome surprises for the Germans. He reasoned that, although the machines were almost completely untried, here was a unique opportunity to test their capabilities in battle. Early in , therefore, 12 of the new generation of German bombers – four He Bs, four Do 17Es and four Ju 86Ds – were shipped to the Iberian war zone, arriving at Seville in mid-February. Operational conditions in Spain soon established the combat potential, or otherwise, of the three types. With its uncertain handling and unreliable diesel engines, the Ju 86D came a very poor third. Although it was rapidly replaced, two more aircraft had been lost by the early summer of . The Do 17E was considered to be on a par with the He B in

terms of handling and general performance, but was let down by its limited bomb-carrying capacity. One of the four was lost, shot down by an I fighter over Bilbao on 18 April. Ostensibly destroyed by the Treaty of Versailles, the German Air Force nevertheless kept itself alive during the 1920s through secret aircraft development abroad, plus extensive pilot training on gliders at home, as seen here. The Heinkel had proven itself beyond doubt to be the superior machine of the three. In all, nearly He 100s were to serve in Spain. These aircraft had braced and staggered wings, fixed, spatted undercarriages and open cockpits, making them little removed from the fighters of World War I. Indeed, they were slower than civilian monoplane types such as the He 70, and only marginally faster than the He 100. Yet the combat capability of the Luftwaffe was revolutionized with the introduction of the monoplane Bf 109. The development and performance of particular aircraft types is further described in later chapters. The first of ten pre-production Bf 109s took to the air in November 1935, and the following month three aircraft were sent to war-torn Spain for an evaluation under operational conditions with the Legion Condor. Accompanying them were II. Gruppe, Jagdgeschwader II. Operational by April, the unit ultimately did not see its first combat until the battle for Brunete in July, when it was discovered that the Bf 109 and the nimble Soviet-built Polikarpov fighters were evenly matched below 3,000 ft. It had demonstrated that with the right aircraft and good training, plus cooperation with ground forces in terms of ground-attack strikes, using the new aerial terror machine, the Ju 87, it could dominate less well-equipped or trained opponents. It would soon be able to prove that reality on a far wider stage. There were particular problems in manufacturing aero engines, which was one of the factors that limited the development of four-engined strategic bombers in favour of two-engined medium bombers. Nevertheless, the Luftwaffe had built itself to a potent size by the eve of war in September 1939: it fielded 2,000 frontline combat aircraft, as opposed to 1,000 belonging to the RAF, plus it had the advantages of good training and recent combat experience. The Luftwaffe, alongside the German Army, launched itself against Poland on 1 September 1939, Luftflotten Air Fleets 1 and 4 being the main formations deployed. While the German ground forces made good progress across terrain baked hard by the long, hot summer of 1939, they were aided by the overwhelming air superiority established within the opening three days by the vastly more impressive Luftwaffe. The dominance of the Luftwaffe over the Polish Air Force can be overemphasized, and there were some individual actions that resulted in significant German losses, particularly when Polish fighters jumped unescorted bombers. Yet with a modern air force pitted against just mostly obsolescent operational aircraft, the result was never in doubt. In a pattern that would become dreadfully familiar over the ensuing years, German aircraft strafed and bombed much of the Polish Air Force to destruction on the ground, effectively removing it from the equation. German aircraft also flew hundreds of sorties in support of troops on the ground, operating essentially as an aerial artillery to the German Army. The Ju 87 in particular came to the fore, illustrating an exceptional ability to deliver accurate strikes against pinpoint targets. Air liaison groups operated alongside the ground forces, typically in SdKfz half-track comms vehicles, relaying targets to the air assets as threats and opportunities emerged. Poland finally surrendered to the German forces on 27 September, and the Luftwaffe basked in its glory as Hitler already made plans for a Western-looking conquest. In between the invasion of Poland and the launching of the Blitzkrieg in France, aircraft from both sides would periodically venture across their respective defensive borders the Maginot line in France and the Westwall or Siegfried line in Germany on tentative reconnaissance flights. The Luftwaffe was back in major action again in April 1940, for the invasion of Denmark and Norway. Bombers also worked in an anti-ship capacity, targeting Norwegian, British and French vessels along the coastline. Yet these operations were dwarfed by the scale of what was to follow. Panzer Division in France, Short-range reconnaissance aircraft such as this worked in close radio-link with armoured columns, and helped in matters such as artillery spotting.

Chapter 5 : Arthur Nebe | Military Wiki | FANDOM powered by Wikia

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Chapter 6 : Michael Balfour (historian) - Wikipedia

*The Third Reich, Hitler and the Rise of National Socialism. Adolf Hitler was born in the Austrian border town of Braunau am Inn in When he was seventeen, he was refused admission to the Vienna Art Academy, having been found insufficiently talented.*

Police career[ edit ] Born in Berlin in , the son of a Berlin school teacher, Nebe volunteered for military service and served with distinction during World War I. He attained the rank of a police inspector in and the rank of Police Commissioner in In Nebe was appointed head of Prussian Criminal Police. In July , the Prussian Criminal Police became the central criminal investigation department for Germany, the Reichskriminalpolizeiamt. It was amalgamated, along with the secret state police, the Geheime Staatspolizei Gestapo , into the Sicherheitspolizei SiPo , with Reinhard Heydrich in overall command. Nebe was appointed head of the Reichskriminalpolizeiamt, reporting to Heydrich. It also led to an "overlap" of personnel from the SD, Gestapo and Kripo to leadership positions in the police and security forces in Germany. Under his leadership, equipped with arbitrary powers of arrest and detention, the Kripo acted more and more like the Gestapo, including the liberal use of so-called protective custody and large-scale roundups of " asocials ". The Einsatzgruppen also shot hostages and prisoners of war handed over by the army for execution. The killing activities progressed apace. In a 13 July Operational Situation Report , Nebe stated that 1, Jews had been killed in Minsk, and that in Vilna, the liquidation of the Jews was underway, and that five hundred Jews were shot daily. I gave orders to intensify these activities". He also reported that the killings were being brought into smooth running order and that the shootings were carried out "at an increasing rate". The report also announced that in Minsk Einsatzgruppe was now killing non-Jews. Regaining his composure, Himmler decided that alternative methods of killing should be found. Murder with carbon monoxide gas, already in use in the Reich as part of the euthanasia program , was contemplated, but deemed too cumbersome for the mobile killing operations in the occupied Soviet Union. One night after a party, Nebe had driven home drunk, parked in his garage, and fallen asleep with the engine running, thus nearly dying of carbon monoxide poisoning from the exhaust fumes. The next day Widmann, Nebe, and an explosives expert carried out their first experiment in prepared bunkers in the Minsk area. One of the bunkers was loaded with explosives and 24 mental patients were put into it. Nebe gave the signal to detonate, but the resultant explosion failed to kill the patients. Several of them emerged from the bunker covered in blood and screaming loudly. Thereupon more explosives were brought up, the wounded patients were forced back into the bunker, and a second explosion finally finished the job. The bunker had become quiet and parts of bodies could be seen hanging from nearby trees. At first, exhausts from a passenger vehicle were vented into the room, so that the carbon monoxide would kill those inside. However, this method failed to kill the patients, so a truck was added; the patients were dead within 15 minutes. Nebe and Widmann concluded, that killing with explosives was impractical, while gassing "held promise", as vehicles were readily available, and could be used as needed. Nebe, as the Einsatzgruppe B commander, participated in a three-day field conference at Mogilev in late September He also covered the "Jewish question", with particular consideration to the anti-partisan movement. There was a dramatic increase in atrocities against Jews and other civilians in the last three months of An Einsatzgruppe B report, dated 9 October , stated that, due to suspected partisan activity near Demidov, all male residents aged fifteen to fifty-five were put in a camp to be screened. Seventeen people were identified as "partisans" and "Communists" and five were hanged in front of local residents assembled to watch; the rest were shot. After the Anschluss in , the organization had fallen under the control of Nazi Germany and was headed by Heydrich until the time of his death. Nebe served in this capacity until June , when he was replaced by Ernst Kaltenbrunner. He was arrested in January , after a former mistress betrayed him. Yet, according to Kitchen, he "was clearly unable to stand the strain and was posted back to Berlin". Headland concludes that Nebe was an ambitious man who may have volunteered to lead an Einsatzgruppe unit for careerist reasons, to get a "military decoration", and to curry favor with Heydrich. Any misgivings he may have entertained as to the feasibility of the undertaking failed to prevent him from overseeing the murder of close to 50, people in the

five months he spent as commander of his unit. Kay writes that "the role, character and motivation of those involved both in planning and in some cases carrying out mass murder and in the conspiracy against Hitler deserve to be investigated more closely". In *Wo ist Nebe?* Gisevius also claimed that Nebe exaggerated the number of victims in reports to Berlin by adding a zero to the number of those killed. He discusses the role of Henning von Tresckow and his adjutant Fabian von Schlabrendorff, who were members of the resistance, and writes: Schlabrendorff claimed that he and Tresckow had convinced themselves that "under the mask of the SS leader lurked a committed anti-Nazi. We succeeded in saving the lives of many Russians. The Russian population often expressed their thanks to us". Nothing was said about the 45, murder victims of Einsatzgruppe B by November, the point at which Nebe returned to Berlin. This is, of course, nonsense. Yet all evidence indicates that he was quite content to play his role in Nazi genocide and that his subsequent displeasure with the regime may have stemmed from the imminent Nazi defeat but not opposition to the Holocaust.

Chapter 7 : One Man Against Tyranny | History | Smithsonian

*Germany - The Third Reich, When Hitler finally became chancellor, on January 30, , it was not on the crest of a wave of popular support but as the result of backroom political intrigue by Schleicher, Papen, and the president's son, Oskar von Hindenburg.*

Included among his work in the east, Nebe, with the technical assistance of Albert Widmann , experimented with several different methods as a means to kill mental patients: The new facility developed and supplied to the Einsatzgruppen was gas vans. In September , Einsatzgruppe B was faced with the task of liquidating the patients of the lunatic asylums in the cities of Minsk and Mogilev. Nebe decided to find a simpler way for his men to kill the mentally diseased, other than by shooting them. He contacted Kripo headquarters and asked for their help in carrying out the killing of the insane with either explosives or poison gas. Heess , ways of using the carbon monoxide gas from automobile exhaust for killing operations in the East, based on the experience gained from the euthanasia program. Widmann took to Minsk kgs of explosive material and the metal pipes required for the gassing installations. Widmann carried out an experimental killing using explosives. Twenty-five mentally ill people were locked into two bunkers in a forest outside Minsk. The first explosion killed only some of them, and it took much time and trouble until the second explosion killed the rest. Explosives therefore were unsatisfactory. A few days later an experiment with poison gas was carried out by Nebe and Dr. In the local lunatic asylum, a room with twenty to thirty of the insane was closed hermetically, and two pipes were driven into the wall. A car was parked outside, and one of the metal pipes that Dr. Widmann had brought connected the exhaust of the car to the pipe in the wall. The car engine was turned on and the carbon monoxide began seeping into the room. After eight minutes, the people in the room were still alive. A second car was connected to the other pipe in the wall. The two cars were operated simultaneously, and a few minutes later all those in the room were dead. After these experimental executions, Nebe came up with the idea of constructing a car with a hermetically sealed cabin for killing purposes. Nebe discussed the technical aspects of the idea with Dr. Heess and together they brought the proposal before Heydrich , who adopted it. One night after a party Nebe had driven home drunk, parked in his garage and fell asleep with the car engine running. He nearly died of carbon monoxide poisoning from the exhaust fumes. In late after the Wannsee Conference , Nebe informed his fellow conspirators of the plans for the so-called Final Solution. A different picture of Nebe is shown through the August mass-shooting of people in Minsk. Himmler attended the shooting; just after the event, he vomited. After regaining his composure, Himmler decided that alternate methods of killing should be found. Nebe decided to try experimenting by murdering Soviet mental patients first with explosives near Minsk and then with automobile exhaust at Mogilev. In , Nebe suggested to Grawitz that the Gypsies interned at Auschwitz would be good people to use for medical experiments at the Dachau concentration camp Himmler had asked Grawitz for advice on the question. Bernhard Wehner of the RKPA stated Nebe was worried the Allies would punish him for his crimes, and that this was the only reason he joined the resistance. As part of the plot, Nebe was to lead a team of 12 policemen to kill Himmler but the signal never reached him.

**Chapter 8 : Project MUSE - Ordinary Germans in Extraordinary Times**

*Here, for example, are statistics from Michael Balfour, "Withstanding Hitler in Germany, ": " persons were found guilty on 'political grounds'; in , the figure was 10,, in , 17," (p. ).*

When he was seventeen, he was refused admission to the Vienna Art Academy, having been found insufficiently talented. Hitler remained in Vienna until , when he moved to Munich. Its members were known as Nazis, a term derived from the German pronunciation of "National. As leader of the NSDAP, Hitler reorganized the party and encouraged the assimilation of other radical right-wing groups. The postwar economic slump won the party a following among unemployed ex-soldiers, the lower middle class, and small farmers; in membership totaled about 55, General Ludendorff supported the former corporal in the Beer Hall Putsch of November in Munich, an attempt to overthrow the Bavarian government. The putsch failed, and Hitler received a light sentence of five years, of which he served less than one. Incarcerated in relative comfort, he wrote *Mein Kampf My Struggle* , in which he set out his long-term political aims. After the failure of the putsch, Hitler turned to "legal revolution" as the means to power and chose two parallel paths to take the Nazis to that goal. First, the NSDAP would employ propaganda to create a national mass party capable of coming to power through electoral successes. Second, the party would develop a bureaucratic structure and prepare itself to assume roles in government. Beginning in the mids, Nazi groups sprang up in other parts of Germany. By party membership exceeded ,; the Nazis, however, polled only 2. Had it not been for the economic collapse that began with the Wall Street stock market crash of October , Hitler probably would not have come to power. Once these loans were recalled, Germany was devastated. Unemployment went from 8. United States president Herbert Hoover declared a "reparations moratorium" in In the meantime, the Depression deepened, and social discontent intensified to the point that Germany seemed on the verge of civil war. In times of desperation, voters are ready for extreme solutions, and the NSDAP exploited the situation. If voters were not drawn to some aspects of the party platform, they might agree with others. Like other right-wing groups, the party blamed the Treaty of Versailles and reparations for the developing crisis. Nazi propaganda attacked the Weimar political system, the "November criminals," Marxists, internationalists, and Jews. Besides promising a solution to the economic crisis, the NSDAP offered the German people a sense of national pride and the promise of restored order. The shares of the parties of the extreme left and extreme right, the KPD and the NSDAP, respectively, increased dramatically in this period, KPD holdings almost doubling from fifty-four in to in November Beginning with twelve seats in , the Nazis increased their delegation seats nearly tenfold, to seats in They doubled their holdings to in the summer of Ruling without parliament was a major step in moving away from parliamentary democracy and had the approval of many on the right. Many historians see this development as part of a strategic plan formulated at the time by elements of the conservative establishment to abolish the republic and replace it with an authoritarian regime. Hitler refused this offer, demanding the chancellorship instead. General Kurt von Schleicher, a master intriguer and a leader of the conservative campaign to abolish the republic, convinced Hindenburg to dismiss Papen. On January 30, , Papen again put together a cabinet, this time with Hitler as chancellor. Papen and other conservatives thought they could tame Hitler by tying him down with the responsibilities of government and transferring to themselves his tremendous popularity with a large portion of the electorate. But they proved no match for his ruthlessness and his genius at knowing how--and when--to seize power. Within two months, Hitler had dictatorial control over Germany. The National Socialists accomplished their "revolution" within months, using a combination of legal procedure, persuasion, and terror. Because the parties forming the cabinet did not have a parliamentary majority, Hindenburg called for the dissolution of the Reichstag and set March 5, , as the date for new elections. A week before election day, the Reichstag building was destroyed by fire. The Nazis blamed the fire on the Communists, and on February 28 the president, invoking Article 48 of the constitution, signed a decree that granted the Nazis the right to quash the political opposition. Authorized by the decree, the SA arrested or intimidated Socialists and Communists. Nonetheless, with the help of political allies, Hitler presented the Reichstag with the proposal for an Enabling Act that, if passed by a

two-thirds majority, would allow him to govern without parliament for four years. On March 23, the proposal was passed with the support of the Center Party and others. All Communists and some Social Democrats were prevented from voting. Hitler used the Enabling Act to implement Gleichschaltung synchronization, that is, the policy of subordinating all institutions and organizations to Nazi control. First, left-wing political parties were banned; then, in July, Germany was declared a one-party state. The civil service and judiciary were purged of "non-Aryans" Jews and leftists. Local and state governments were reorganized and staffed with Nazis. Trade unions were dissolved and replaced with Nazi organizations. The enormous and unruly SA was brought under control by a massacre of its leadership at the end of June in the "night of the long knives. Once the regime was established, terror was the principal means used to maintain its control of Germany. Police arrests, which had focused originally on Communists and Socialists, were extended to other groups, most particularly to Jews. This systematic use of terror was highly effective in silencing resistance. Some enemies of the regime fled abroad. They resisted incorporation into the regime and retained a substantial degree of independence. This situation was tolerated by the regime, provided that the churches did not interfere with its efforts to control public life. When the churches were outraged by such Nazi practices as euthanasia, they protested. The regime responded by more carefully concealing such medical procedures. Otherwise, with the exception of a few brave isolated clergymen, the churches rarely spoke out against the regime. However, an elaborate system of censorship was not considered necessary to control the press. Non-Nazi party newspapers had already been suppressed. The editors of the remaining newspapers soon were able to figure out what was deemed suitable for public consumption. The regime soon achieved its desired consolidation. Many Germans supported it, some out of opportunism, some because they liked certain aspects of it such as full employment, which was quickly achieved. The regime also brought social order, something many Germans welcomed after fifteen years of political and economic chaos.

**Foreign Policy** Once his regime was consolidated, Hitler took little interest in domestic policy, his sole concern being that Germany become sufficiently strong to realize his long-term geopolitical goal of creating a German empire that would dominate western Europe and extend deep into Russia. In a first step toward this goal, he made a de facto revision to the Treaty of Versailles by ceasing to heed its restrictions on German rearmament. Soon after becoming chancellor, Hitler ordered that rearmament, secretly under way since the early s, be stepped up. Later in , he withdrew Germany from the League of Nations to reduce possible foreign control over Germany. In he announced that Germany had begun rearmament, would greatly increase the size of its army, and had established an air force. Italy, France, and Britain protested these actions but did nothing further, and Hitler soon signed an agreement with Britain permitting Germany to maintain a navy one-third the size of the British fleet. In Hitler remilitarized the Rhineland, in violation of various treaties. There was no foreign opposition. In Germany began closer relations with fascist Italy, a pariah state because of its invasion of Ethiopia the year before. That same year, Germany, Italy, and Japan signed the Anti-Comintern Pact, the three signatories pledging to defend each other against the Soviet Union and international communism. In response, the Four-Year Plan was established. Developed under the direction of Hermann Goering, it set forth production quotas and market guidelines. Efforts to regiment the economy were not without conflict. Others advocated autarchy, that is, firmly basing the German economy in Central Europe and securing its raw materials through barter agreements. In the end, no clear decision on the management of the German economy was made. Large weapons contracts with industrial firms soon had the economy running at top speed, and full employment was reached by Wages did not increase much for ordinary workers, but job security after years of economic depression was much appreciated. The rearmament program was not placed on a sound financial footing, however. Taxes were not increased to pay for it because the regime feared that this would dissatisfy workers. The regime also shunned a rigorous organization of rearmament because it feared the social tensions this might engender. The production of consumer goods was not curtailed either, again based on the belief that the morale of the population had to remain high if Germany were to become strong. In addition, because Hitler expected that the wars waged in pursuit of his foreign policy goals would be short, he judged great supplies of weapons to be unnecessary. Thus, when war began in September with the invasion of Poland, Germany had a broad and impressive range of weapons, but not much in the way of replacements. However, because many of them were skeptical about

his long-range goals, Hitler replaced a number of high military officers and diplomats with more pliable subordinates. The annexation Anschluss of Austria was welcomed by most Austrians, who wished to become part of a greater Germany, something forbidden by the Treaty of Versailles. In March , Germany occupied the Czech-populated western provinces of Bohemia and Moravia, and Slovakia was made a German puppet state. Because Hitler had concluded that he could not hope for British neutrality in the coming war, he formed a formal military alliance with Italy--the Pact of Steel. In August he signed a nonaggression pact with the Soviet Union, thus apparently freeing Germany from repeating the two-front war it had fought in World War I. Britain and France declared war on Germany two days later. Soviet armies occupied eastern Poland, and the two countries subsequently formally divided Poland between them. French and British troops offered ineffective resistance against the lightning-like strikes, or blitzkrieg, of German tanks and airplanes. A large part of the French army surrendered, and some , British and French soldiers were trapped at Dunkirk on the coast of northern France. However, because Hitler, for a combination of political and military reasons, had halted the advance of his armored divisions, the British were able to rescue the men at Dunkirk. France, however, surrendered in June. For Hitler the war in the west was a sideshow, a prelude to the building of an empire in eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. Hitler had hoped that Britain would stay out of the war.

**Chapter 9 : Henning von Tresckow - Wikipedia**

*Lesson Objectives To identify the key events that helped Hitler to establish his dictatorship in the years Lesson Tasks. Download, read and make notes from the Lesson PowerPoint.*

Early life[ edit ] Tresckow was born in Magdeburg into a noble family from the Brandenburg region of Prussia with years of military tradition that provided the Prussian Army with 21 generals. He joined the 1st Regiment of Foot Guards as an officer cadet at age of 16 and became the youngest lieutenant in the Army in June . In the Second Battle of the Marne , he earned the Iron Cross 2nd class for outstanding courage and independent action against the enemy. At that time Count Siegfried von Eulenberg, the commander of the 1st Regiment of Foot Guards, predicted that "You, Tresckow, will either become chief of the General Staff or die on the scaffold as a rebel. After World War I, Tresckow stayed with the famed Infantry Regiment 9 Potsdam and took part in the suppression of the Spartacist movement in January , but resigned from the Weimar Republic Reichswehr Army in in order to study law and economics. He worked in a banking house and embarked on a world journey visiting Britain , France , Brazil and the eastern United States in before he had to abandon it to take care of family possessions back home. Like members of many prominent Prussian families, Tresckow married into another family with long-standing military traditions. In , he married Erika von Falkenhayn, only daughter of Erich von Falkenhayn , the chief of the General Staff from to , and returned to military service, being sponsored by Field Marshal Paul von Hindenburg. Nevertheless, he was not a typical Prussian officer. He wore his uniform only when it was absolutely required and disliked the regimentation of army life. Tresckow played a role in the adoption of the Manstein Plan , which proved to be so successful in the French campaign. In October, he said in Paris to a secretary the future wife of Alfred Jodl , "If Churchill can induce America to join in the war, we shall slowly but surely be crushed by material superiority. Subsequently, in October and November , he served in combat as the commanding officer of Grenadier Regiment , defending the western bank of the Dnieper River in Ukraine. From December until his death in , he served as Chief of Staff of the 2nd Army , in areas which are now Belarus and eastern Poland. The events of the s, such as the Blombergâ€™Fritsch Affair , further strengthened his antipathy to the Nazis[ citation needed ]. He regarded the Kristallnacht state-sanctioned, nationwide pogrom of Jews as personal humiliation and degradation of civilization. And so we must act now. We have the power in Russia! The headquarters of Army Group Center thus emerged as the new nerve center of Army resistance. In late , Olbricht indicated that he still needed about eight weeks to complete preparations for the coup. Shortly thereafter, Tresckow traveled to Berlin to discuss the few remaining questions and emphasize that time was running short. The spark can now be set off. It came on 13 March , when Hitler finally visited troops on the Eastern Front at Smolensk after a few cancellations and postponements. He also feared a civil war between the Army and SS, since Heinrich Himmler had canceled his visit and could not be killed at the same time. The "Cointreau" was actually a bomb constructed of a British plastic explosive "Plastic C" placed into the casing of a British magnetic mine, with a timer consisting of a spring which would be gradually dissolved by acid. After takeoff, a message was sent to the other Berlin conspirators by code that Operation Flash was under way, which they expected to take place around Minsk. Yet when Hitler landed safely at his East Prussian headquarters, it became obvious that the bomb had failed to detonate the extremely low temperatures in the unheated luggage compartment probably prevented the fuse from working. The message of failure was quickly sent out and Schlabrendorff retrieved the package to prevent discovery of the plot. Colonel Gersdorff volunteered to be the suicide bomber, intending to explode a bomb on his person near Hitler while serving as a tour guide. He had with him bombs with ten-minute fuses, knowing that Hitler was scheduled to be in the museum for 30 minutes. But at the last minute, just before Hitler was to arrive, the duration of his stay was reduced to just eight minutes as a security precaution. Hitler breezed through in two minutes. As a result, Gersdorff could not accomplish his mission, the assassination plan failed again and he barely managed to get out and defuse the bombs. Tresckow lacked the required clearance to enter either site and the extremely high security made any attempt impractical and unlikely to succeed. With unwitting help from Schmudt, he placed like-minded officers as their adjutants and staff

officers to bring them closer to the conspiracy. Kluge sympathized with the conspirators and at times seemed ready to act, only to become indecisive at critical moments. Others refused outright, Manstein declaring, "Prussian field marshals do not mutiny. Erika and Henning von Tresckow. Olbricht now put forward a new strategy for staging a coup against Hitler. Olbricht suggested that this plan could be used to mobilize the Reserve Army to take control of German cities, disarm the SS and arrest the Nazi leadership once Hitler had been assassinated. During August and September, Tresckow took extended sick leave in Berlin to draft the "revised" Valkyrie plan with fine details and precise timetables. Knowledge of the Jewish Holocaust was a major impetus for many officers involved. Even his promotion a month later to Chief of Staff of the Second Army did not bring him much closer. By the time Stauffenberg was appointed Chief of Staff of the Reserve Army and was ready to carry out the assassination attempt, the Allies had already landed in Normandy. When Stauffenberg sent a message to Tresckow through Lehndorff to ask whether there was any point in making the attempt since there was no practical purpose to be served, Tresckow urged him not only to attempt the assassination but to go ahead with the coup in Berlin even if the assassination were to fail. He argued that there must be an overt act of German opposition to Hitler regardless of the consequences. He also told Philipp von Boeselager and Margarete von Oven that 16, people were being killed daily not as casualties of war but from being murdered by the Germans, and Hitler had to be killed just to put an end to it. A few days before the coup attempt, Tresckow confided to a friend that "in all likelihood everything will go wrong". When asked whether the action was necessary nonetheless, he replied, "Yes, even so. His parting words to Schlabrendorff were: The whole world will vilify us now, but I am still totally convinced that we did the right thing. Hitler is the archenemy not only of Germany but of the world. God promised Abraham that He would not destroy Sodom if only ten righteous men could be found in the city, and so I hope for our sake God will not destroy Germany. No one among us can complain about dying, for whoever joined our ranks put on the shirt of Nessus. He was buried in the family home in Wartenberg. When the Nazis learned about his connections in late August, his body was exhumed and taken to the crematorium in the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. His wife was arrested on 15 August, and her children taken away under Nazi policy of Sippenhaft shared family guilt; however, early in October she was released and survived the war. Quotes[ edit ] "The assassination must be attempted at all costs. Even if it should not succeed, an attempt to seize power in Berlin must be made. What matters now is no longer the practical purpose of the coup, but to prove to the world and for the records of history that the men of the resistance dared to take the decisive step. Compared to this objective, nothing else is of consequence. Here we are, two officers of the German General Staff, discussing how best to murder our commander-in-chief. It must be done. This is our only chance Hitler must be cut down like a rabid dog. But how will future history judge the German people if not even a handful of men had the courage to put an end to that criminal? The real Prussian spirit means a synthesis between restraint and freedom, between voluntary subordination and conscientious leadership, between pride in oneself and consideration for others, between rigor and compassion. Unless a balance is kept between these qualities, the Prussian spirit is in danger of degenerating into soulless routine and narrow-minded dogmatism. People would agree with me that the superior warlord Hitler must disappear. He must be shot down.