



MUNICH: NAZISM IS BORN GERMANS REOCCUPY RUHR MAY DAY COMMUNIST RIOT



INFLATION BREEDS PANIC, DISUNITY RED VOTE BEATS HITLER TROOPS CURB UPRISING

1923-32: Discontent and disunity created those seeds, which sprouted as Adolf Hitler's National Socialist party, founded in Munich in 1920. His 1923 Beer Hall Putsch failed and Hitler retired to lick his wounds; Von Hindenburg's presidency started in 1925. Conflicting political groups held armed truce. Strengthened German troops marched back into the Ruhr, and the nation bought five years of prosperity with money borrowed from U. S. and Britain. But as depression hit the world, inflation spiraled upward, soup kitchens appeared and worker-communists broke out into bloody revolt. Elections became open warfare between the increasingly strong Communist and Nazi parties. The Reds had their biggest—and last—victory when Hitler was defeated in the 1932 elections, while the fearful government vainly tried to stop the revolutionary tide with martial law.



Hitler and Goebbels, in 1930.



Hitler, Himmler and other military leaders, 1936.

THE RISE TO POWER (1924-36): After his release from prison in 1924, Hitler began to form his party and gather his henchmen—Goering and Goebbels were among the first. By 1933 Hitler's power forced President Von Hindenburg to appoint him as chancellor of the Reich. The reign of terror began, with the burning of the Reichstag, arrest of 500 Communists, suppression of newspapers and other political parties. All civil liberties were banished, and with the creation of the Gestapo by Goering, the bloody persecution of the Jews began.

Hitler quit the League of Nations and disarmament conference, and in 1934 signed a non-aggression pact with jittery Poland. Hitler became President on Von Hindenburg's death that year and assumed the title of "Fuehrer." During 1935 annexation of the Saar, creation of the Luftwaffe under Goering, and breaking of the Versailles treaty all presented sharp contradiction to the Fuehrer's 1933 Reichstag speech, when he shouted, "Germany wants nothing that she is not ready to give to others. The German people have no thought of invading any country."



HITLER IN AS CHANCELLOR NAZI POMP AND RITUAL APPEALS TO GERMAN PEOPLE



JEWS PERSECUTED COMMUNISTS HUNTED NAZIS BURN "ANTI-GERMAN" BOOKS

1933-35: Hitler forced the aged and sick Von Hindenburg to appoint him chancellor. Free elections vanished and the Reichstag lost all power, but the German people—entranced by the self-glorification of Nazi symbolism and ritualistic splendor—mutely joined the Fuehrer's march towards a "glorified German empire." Nation-wide persecution of Jews began; Communists were hunted down and exterminated by the Gestapo. Nazification worked on the home, the school, the business world, and failing to swing the church into line too, gradually exiled it. Withdrawing from the League of Nations, Hitler "purged" his own party ranks, and his dream of a completely rationalized and goose-stepping German nation began to come true. Labor codes were established, wage scales were fixed, unions abolished. With the nation healing internally, Germans turned towards lost possessions, and in 1935 the Nazi-dominated Saar plebiscite brought the coal-rich territory back into the Reich.

Nazis Had Victory in Grasp After 1940 Race to Channel

(By United Press) Received little fight. The Netherlands armies, separated and surrounded, capitulated after four days. In Belgium, a large body of British and French troops advanced some 50 miles north of the border in an attempt to cut off German detachments pouring across the Albert canal, 100 miles to the northeast, and driving coastward toward Brussels and Antwerp. The French were relying on a Belgian division in the Ardennes forest near the Luxembourg border to cover their right flank. It was this right flank that proved the allies' undoing. Striking with speed and audacity, a crack German armored column under Gen. Erwin Rommel dispersed the Belgian division and emerged from the forest on May 13. Then Rommel began an apparently insane maneuver. He turned westward and raced along behind the allied lines up to the valley of the Somme, reaching the English Channel near Abbeville. His supply line was stretched a precarious 150 miles, but the speed of the Nazi follow-up assured the success of Rommel's tactics. Tank units, motorized troops and blocks of infantry streamed swiftly through the gap to build up the German salient. By May 23, the Maginot line was effectively flanked and the allied forces to the north cut off and surrounded. 'Miracle' at Dunkirk The main French armies started a belated rescue drive from the south, but on May 23, King Leo-

pol suddenly surrendered the entire Belgian army. The remaining allied divisions in the trap were facing surrender or annihilation. Then help arrived from an unlooked-for quarter. Steaming miraculously to the rescue at that critical moment came a strange procession—a vast nondescript relief fleet of vessels hastily recruited from England's coastal towns and villages. It included ancient transports, pleasure steamers, destroyers, fishing craft, tugboats and dainty racing vessels. Standing in perilously close to shore, they began the seemingly impossible task of removing the trapped troops from Dunkirk's crowded beaches. For four days and nights under a hellish rain of bombs and shrapnel, the motley fleet shuttled back and forth across the channel. Scores of vessels were sunk but the rest came back for more. When the ordeal finally ended, some 300,000 British and French soldiers—roughly three-fourths



Hitler, Mussolini form Rome-Berlin Axis, 1936.



Hitler (arrow) rolls into Vienna, 1938.



Hitler, Von Ribbentrop, Chamberlain at Munich.



Hess, Hitler, Goering and others in the beer hall.

BEGINNINGS OF CONQUEST (1936-39): The Nazi march toward European domination began in 1936 when German troops, breaking the Locarno Pact, occupied the Rhineland. Next came formation of the Rome-Berlin Axis, when Hitler joined with Mussolini in a partnership dedicated to war and aggression. In 1937, all Nazi male youths were ordered to work or military service, and with the entire German nation now behind him either by choice or domination, Hitler sent an ultimatum to Austria. The bloodless occupation followed in 1938. Concentrating 200,000 troops on the Czech frontier, the Nazis refused all offers of concessions of the helpless nation. Chamberlain became the symbol of democratic appeasement when he signed the Munich pact, giving Hitler 11,000 square miles of Czech territory with a population of 3,500,000. In this same city—where the Nazi "beer hall gang" met each year to celebrate founding of the party—Hitler narrowly escaped death in 1939, when a bomb wrecked the shrine just after he left. The occupation of Austria and Czechoslovakia came just six months after Hitler told the world, "There is no nation in the world which longs more for peace than Germany."



Poles weep as Hitler and blitzers invade in 1939.



Hitler consoles war widow.



Von Ribbentrop, Kurusu and Hitler in 1940.



Hitler rescues the ex-Duce in 1943.

WORLD WAR II (1939-44): After signing a non-aggression pact with Russia in 1939, Hitler's troops invaded Poland without declaration of war. England and France declared war on Germany, and Hitler answered them in 1940 with invasions of Denmark, Norway, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and France. Significant were the December, 1940, meetings of Hitler and Japan's Kurusu, then ambassador to Berlin, for a year later the attack on Pearl Harbor came as Kurusu was peacemaking in Washington. Hitler erred gravely in 1941 when, after swallowing the Balkans, he invaded vast Russia. Early successes were followed by retreats here, and in North Africa after Germany declared war on the U. S. Italy's capitulation set off a crumbling of the whole Axis structure and Hitler's dramatic rescue of Mussolini did little to reassure wavering satellite nations. No amount of propaganda could hide from the German people the steady retreat of their troops from Russia, and faced with increasing Allied military gains and blockbusting bombings, the Fuehrer's followers could draw small comfort from his November 9 statement, "if the German people despair, they will deserve no better than they get. I will not be sorry for them if God lets them down."



Poles weep as Hitler and Blitzers invade in 1939.



Hitler directs war with Russia.



Hitler rescues the ex-Duce in 1943.



1941 army revolts augur civil uprisings as in 1918.

WORLD WAR II (1939-44): After signing a non-aggression pact with Russia in 1939 Hitler's troops invaded Poland. England and France declared war on Germany, and Hitler answered them in 1940 with invasions of Denmark, Norway, the Low Countries and France. Significant were the 1940 meetings of Hitler and Japan's Kurusu, for a year later the Pearl Harbor attack came. Hitler erred gravely in 1941 when, after swallowing the Balkans, he invaded vast Russia. Early successes were followed by increasing retreats here and in North Africa after U. S. entered the war. By the end of 1943 Germany had also lost Sicily and part of Italy. Allied invasion of France in June of 1944 forced a three-front war on Germany, already retreating in Italy and Russia. Revolt of his army clique and attempted assassination brought on a "purge" of Nazi officers, as the Fuehrer dodged blame for military disasters. Faced with humiliating army retreats and continual air bombardment, Hitler crouched in his ever-shrinking "Fortress" and desperately told his people that "Victory will one day compensate each and every one of us for the sorrows suffered and the sacrifices made."

of those left after the Belgian surrender—had been taken back to England. It was then the Nazis did—in the words of Neville Chamberlain—"miss the bus." England lay ripe for invasion across a 21-mile strait. The British army, compelled to leave its heavy equipment on the continent, was tired and disorganized. The British braced for assault. Home guards with bayonets on poles drilled to aid the army. Prime Minister Churchill squared his shoulders before a microphone and promised the world that the British would "fight on the beaches, on the landing grounds, in the fields, in the streets and on the hills." He vowed: "We shall never surrender!" In that dark hour the American government, eschewing legalities, (Continued on Page 8)



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