



HITLER'S GERMANY

IN GENERAL

Cumulative Radicalization

“Working towards the *Führer*”

Inflexible + Indecisive

Institutional Darwinism

Social Control

Intimidation and surveillance

Civic organization

Racial community

Economic Recovery

The marketplace as a realm of struggle

“The battle for work”


Self-sufficiency (resources and finance)

Military Mobilization

Expansion

Rearmament


[Planning]



THE POLICE STATE

THE *SCHUTZSTAFFEL*

- General SS** [*Allgemeine SS*]
Racial policy, political opponents, subversion
- Armed SS** [*Waffen SS*]
Elite military formations
- Deaths-head units** [*Totenkopfverbände*]
Concentration and extermination camps
- Security Service** [*Sicherheitsdienst*]
Intelligence



Left: Göring turns the *Gestapo* over to Himmler, 1934
Right: Reinhard Heydrich, head of RSHA, as SS *Gruppenführer* (~Lieutenant-General)

THE POLICE STATE

THE SS

- Secret Police** [*Gestapo*; merged 1934]
Treason, subversion, counter-intelligence
- Civil Police** [*OrPo*; added 1936]
Uniformed police, fire, emergency, etc.
- Security Police** [*Sicherheitspolizei*; 1936]
Investigative police, from OrPo
- Reich Main Security Office** [*RSHA*, 1939]
Security Police + Security Service

THE POLICE STATE

THE SS

Main Economic Office [*Wirtschaftshauptamt*; 1939]

~ 200 holding companies, incl. publishing, porcelain, memorabilia, mineral water, construction materials, furniture, agricultural produce, bakeries, leather goods, meat packing, clothing, small arms, liquor, ...



Baby Elephant by Allach Porcelain (Munich)



THE POLICE STATE

THE SS

Main Economic Office [*Wirtschaftshauptamt*; 1939]

~ 200 holding companies, incl. publishing, porcelain, memorabilia, mineral water, construction materials, furniture, agricultural produce, bakeries, leather goods, meat packing, clothing, small arms, liquor, ...



Luftwaffe Officer, by Allach Porcelain (Munich)

THE WORLD ECONOMY BEYOND "FULFILLMENT"

Modern technology and communications have made international relations among peoples so close that the European, even without being fully conscious of it, applies the conditions of American life as the yardstick for his own. ...

In future the only state that will be able to stand up to North America will be the one that has understood how, through the essence of its inner life and the meaning of its foreign policy, to raise the value of its people in racial terms and to create a form of state most appropriate to this purpose. ... It is the task of the national socialist movement to strengthen and prepare its fatherland for this mission...

The final decision in the struggle for the world market will lie with force.

Hitler's "Second Book" (1928)

THE WORLD ECONOMY

	Total GDP		Per Capita GDP	
		% of USA		% of USA
USA	727,803	100	5,963	100
GBR	242,385	33	5,287	88
DEU	243,983	34	3,762	63
RUS	255,719	35	1,461	25

Averages for the period 1924-35, in 1991 dollars (Angus Maddison)

In 1870 the population of Germany and the United States was about equal, total American output about 1/3 larger.

In 1943 (before serious bombing) the US economy would be four times as large as Germany's.

The *urgency* of Nazi aggression was owed in large part to Hitler's belief that Germany, and Europe as a whole, were falling behind in a comprehensive struggle to avoid economic and cultural domination by the United States.

THE BATTLE FOR JOBS



Der fdf Wogen



Ganz Deutschland hört den Führer
mit dem Voltsempfänger

German Unemployment

- 1932 > 5 million
- 1935 2.2 million
- 1937 < 1 million

Global economic recovery after 1932

Small war-time birth cohorts

Exclude Jews, “marriages loans” for women

Conscript agricultural labor

Price controls to stem inflation


Consumer rationing to control demand



The Strength through Joy Car subscription brochure (1939), and People's Radio poster (1936).

Right: German Mother's Gold Cross, awarded for bearing eight children.

RACIAL HYGIENE

- 1933 Law for the Prevention of Hereditary Diseased Offspring (July)
“Moral feeble-mindedness” (prostitutes, vagrants, prisoners)
~360,000 sterilizations by 1939 (2/3 from mental hospitals)
- 1935 Physically disabled (incl. those who exhibit “persistent failure in physical training”) forbidden to enter secondary school
- 1936 Suburban camps established to control / segregate Gypsies
Central Office for Combating Homosexuality
Lebensborn (“Well of Life”) maternity homes for single mothers, esp those fathered by SS-men

Above: Measuring the skull of a Romani woman; Below: Poster for *Racial Politics Monthly*

RACIAL HYGIENE



- 1938 Identification cards of Gypsies introduced
- 1939 *Aktion T4* (Euthenasia) program for psychiatric patients
~200K Germans, ~100K others



Above: Measuring the skull of a Romani woman; Below: Poster for *Racial Politics Monthly*

THE NUREMBERG LAWS



- 1933 National boycott of Jewish businesses (Apr)
- Law for the Restoration of a Professional Civil Service (Apr)
- “Aryan Paragraph” promulgated
- Kosher butchery banned
- 1934 Jewish students excluded from exams in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, law
- 1935 Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honor
- Reich Citizenship Law



Above: SA men outside Jewish store (April 1933). Below: Poster explaining rules for intermarriage and citizenship under the Nuremberg Laws



Above:
Ernst vom Rath



Right:
Herschel Grynszpan

THE NIGHT OF BROKEN GLASS

9-10 NOVEMBER 1938

The Jews must get out of Germany, indeed out of Europe altogether. That will take some time yet, but it will and must happen. The Leader is firmly resolved on it.

(Goebbels's diary, Nov 1937)

- Mar German annexation of Austria
- Apr Evian Conference on Jewish immigration
- Aug Residence permits for foreigners (incl German-born Jews w dual citizenship) cancelled
- Oct 12,000 Polish Jews expelled from Germany
- Nov Herschel Grynszpan (son of expelled Polish Jews) shoots diplomat Ernst vom Rath in Paris (7th)



Above: Jewish shops in Magdeburg

Below: Fassenstrasse synagogue in Berlin

THE NIGHT OF BROKEN GLASS

9-10 NOVEMBER 1938

- 267 synagogues destroyed, 1400 damaged
- 7,000 Jewish shops and 29 department stores damaged
- ~30,000 Jewish men arrested and interned in camps
- Jewish community fined 1 billion Reichsmarks
- 115K Jews emigrate between Nov 1938 and Sept 1939





Above: Jewish shops in Magdeburg
Below: Fassenstrasse synagogue in Berlin

THE NIGHT OF BROKEN GLASS

9-10 NOVEMBER 1938

I suppose it is Goebbels' megalomania and stupidity that is responsible for starting this operation now, in a particularly difficult diplomatic situation. (Himmler)

I'd rather you had done in two-hundred Jews than destroy so many valuable assets! (Göring, to Reinhard Heydrich)

No foreign propagandist bent upon blackening Germany before the world could outdo the tale of burnings and beatings, of blackguardly assaults on defenseless and innocent people, which disgraced that country yesterday. (Times of London)