Himmler

Heinrich Himmler

Heinrich Luitpold Himmler (German: [?ha?n??ç ?lu??tp?lt ?h?ml?]; 7 October 1900 – 23 May 1945) was a German Nazi politician and military leader who was - Heinrich Luitpold Himmler (German: [?ha?n??ç ?lu??tp?lt ?h?ml?]; 7 October 1900 – 23 May 1945) was a German Nazi politician and military leader who was the 4th Reichsführer of the Schutzstaffel (Protection Squadron; SS), a leading member of the Nazi Party, and one of the most powerful people in Nazi Germany. He was one of the main architects of the Holocaust.

After serving in a reserve battalion during World War I without seeing combat, Himmler went on to join the Nazi Party in 1923. In 1925, he joined the SS, a small paramilitary arm of the Nazi Party that served as a bodyguard unit for Adolf Hitler. Himmler rose steadily through the SS's ranks to become Reichsführer-SS by 1929. Under Himmler's leadership, the SS grew from a 290-man battalion into one of the most powerful institutions in Nazi Germany. Over the course of his career, Himmler acquired a reputation for good organisational skills and for selecting highly competent subordinates, such as Reinhard Heydrich. From 1943 onwards, he was both Chief of the Kriminalpolizei (Criminal Police) and Minister of the Interior, which gave him oversight of all internal and external police and security forces (including the Gestapo). He also controlled the Waffen-SS, a branch of the SS that served in combat alongside the Wehrmacht (armed forces) in World War II.

As the principal enforcer of the Nazis' racial policies, Himmler was responsible for operating concentration and extermination camps as well as forming the Einsatzgruppen death squads in German-occupied Europe. In this capacity, he played a central role in the genocide of an estimated 5.5–6 million Jews and the deaths of millions of other victims during the Holocaust. A day before the launch of Operation Barbarossa in June 1941, Himmler commissioned the drafting of Generalplan Ost, which was approved by Hitler in May 1942 and implemented by the Nazi regime, resulting in the deaths of approximately 14 million people in Eastern Europe.

In the last years of World War II, Hitler appointed Himmler as Commander of the Replacement Army and General Plenipotentiary for the administration of the Third Reich (Generalbevollmächtigter für die Verwaltung). He was later given command of the Army Group Upper Rhine and the Army Group Vistula. He failed to achieve his assigned objectives, and Hitler replaced him in these posts. Realising the war was lost, Himmler attempted, without Hitler's knowledge, to open peace talks with the western Allies in March 1945. When Hitler learned of this on 28 April, he dismissed Himmler from all his posts and ordered his arrest. Himmler attempted to go into hiding but was captured by British forces. He died by suicide in British custody on 23 May 1945.

Himmler (surname)

Heinrich Himmler Gebhard Ludwig Himmler (1898–1982), German Nazi functionary and older brother of Heinrich Himmler Gudrun Burwitz, née Himmler (1929–2018) - Himmler is a German surname. Notable people with the surname include:

Ernst Hermann Himmler (1905–1945), German Nazi functionary and younger brother of Heinrich Himmler

Gebhard Ludwig Himmler (1898–1982), German Nazi functionary and older brother of Heinrich Himmler

Gudrun Burwitz, née Himmler (1929–2018), daughter of Heinrich Himmler

Heinrich Himmler (1900–1945), Reichsführer of the Schutzstaffel (SS), a military commander, and a leading member of the Nazi Party (NSDAP) of Nazi Germany

Katrin Himmler (born 1967), a German author, the granddaughter of Ernst Hermann Himmler, great-niece of Heinrich Himmler

Margarete Himmler (1893–1967), wife of Heinrich Himmler

Margarete Himmler

Margarete "Marga" Himmler (née Boden; 9 September 1893 – 25 August 1967) was the wife of Reichsführer-SS Heinrich Himmler. Margarete Boden was born in - Margarete "Marga" Himmler (née Boden; 9 September 1893 – 25 August 1967) was the wife of Reichsführer-SS Heinrich Himmler.

Operation Himmler

Operation Himmler, also called Operation Konserve, consisted of a group of 1939 false flag undertakings planned by Nazi Germany to give the appearance - Operation Himmler, also called Operation Konserve, consisted of a group of 1939 false flag undertakings planned by Nazi Germany to give the appearance of Polish aggression against Germany. The Germans then used propaganda reports of the events to justify their invasion of Poland, which started on 1 September 1939. Operation Himmler included the Germans staging false attacks on themselves—directed at innocent people, such as civilians and concentration camp prisoners. The operation arguably became the first act of the Second World War in Europe.

Gudrun Burwitz

Elfriede Emma Anna Burwitz (née Himmler; 8 August 1929 – 24 May 2018) was the daughter of Heinrich Himmler and Margarete Himmler. Her father, as Reichsführer-SS - Gudrun Margarete Elfriede Emma Anna Burwitz (née Himmler; 8 August 1929 – 24 May 2018) was the daughter of Heinrich Himmler and Margarete Himmler. Her father, as Reichsführer-SS, was a leading member of the Nazi Party and chief architect of the Final Solution. After the Allied victory, she was arrested and made to testify at the Nuremberg trials. Never renouncing Nazi ideology, she consistently fought to defend her father's reputation and became closely involved in neo-Nazi groups that gave support to ex-members of the SS. She married Wulf Dieter Burwitz, an official of the extremist NPD. In the 1960s she worked for West Germany's Bundesnachrichtendienst (BND), at its headquarters in Pullach, near Munich.

Ernst Hermann Himmler

Hermann Himmler (23 December 1905 – 2 May 1945) was a German Nazi functionary, electrical engineer and younger brother of Reichsführer-SS Heinrich Himmler. Ernst - Ernst Hermann Himmler (23 December 1905 – 2 May 1945) was a German Nazi functionary, electrical engineer and younger brother of Reichsführer-SS Heinrich Himmler.

Gebhard Ludwig Himmler

Ludwig Himmler (29 July 1898 – 22 June 1982) was a German Nazi functionary, mechanical engineer and older brother of Reichsführer-SS Heinrich Himmler. Gebhard - Gebhard Ludwig Himmler (29 July 1898 – 22 June 1982) was a German Nazi functionary, mechanical engineer and older brother of Reichsführer-SS Heinrich Himmler.

Katrin Himmler

Himmler (born 1967) is a German author. She is the granddaughter of Ernst Himmler (1905–1945), and great-niece of his older brother Heinrich Himmler, - Katrin Himmler (born 1967) is a German author. She is the granddaughter of Ernst Himmler (1905–1945), and great-niece of his older brother Heinrich Himmler, one of the leading figures of Nazi Germany. She is the author of Die Brüder Himmler: Eine deutsche Familiengeschichte, published in English as The Himmler Brothers: A German Family History.

Operacja Himmler

Operacja Himmler (Polish: Operation Himmler) is a Polish historical film. It was released in 1979. It tells about the Gleiwitz incident. Stanis?aw Fr?ckowiak - Operacja Himmler (Polish: Operation Himmler) is a Polish historical film. It was released in 1979. It tells about the Gleiwitz incident.

Schutzstaffel

volunteers to provide security for party meetings in Munich. In 1925, Heinrich Himmler joined the unit, which had by then been reformed and given its final name - The Schutzstaffel (German: [???ts??tafl?]; lit. 'Protection Squadron'; SS; also stylised with SS runes as ??) was a major paramilitary organisation under Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party in Nazi Germany, and later throughout German-occupied Europe during World War II.

It began with a small guard unit known as the Saal-Schutz ("Hall Security") made up of party volunteers to provide security for party meetings in Munich. In 1925, Heinrich Himmler joined the unit, which had by then been reformed and given its final name. Under his direction (1929–1945) it grew from a small paramilitary formation during the Weimar Republic to one of the most powerful organisations in Nazi Germany. From the time of the Nazi Party's rise to power until the regime's collapse in 1945, the SS was the foremost agency of security, mass surveillance, and state terrorism within Germany and German-occupied Europe.

The two main constituent groups were the Allgemeine SS (General SS) and Waffen-SS (Armed SS). The Allgemeine SS was responsible for enforcing the racial policy of Nazi Germany and general policing, whereas the Waffen-SS consisted of the combat units of the SS, with a sworn allegiance to Hitler. A third component of the SS, the SS-Totenkopfverbände (SS-TV; "Death's Head Units"), ran the concentration camps and extermination camps. Additional subdivisions of the SS included the Gestapo and the Sicherheitsdienst (SD) organisations. They were tasked with the detection of actual or potential enemies of the Nazi state, the neutralisation of any opposition, policing the German people for their commitment to Nazi ideology, and providing domestic and foreign intelligence.

The SS was the organisation most responsible for the genocidal murder of an estimated 5.5 to 6 million Jews and millions of other victims during the Holocaust. Members of all of its branches committed war crimes and crimes against humanity during World War II (1939–1945). The SS was also involved in commercial enterprises and exploited concentration camp inmates as slave labour. After Nazi Germany's defeat, the SS and the Nazi Party were judged by the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg to be criminal organisations. Ernst Kaltenbrunner, the highest-ranking surviving SS main department chief, was found guilty of crimes against humanity at the Nuremberg trials and hanged in 1946.

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