

The Era of National Socialism



»The world's largest series of books on National Socialism«
– Raul Hilberg on S. Fischer's *Black Series*

Since 1977, S. Fischer's so-called *Black Series* has been dedicated to scholarly and journalistic engagement with the Nazi era. Conceptualised, established and supervised by editor Walter H. Pehle until 2011, the series was intended to provide an objective historical account and thus counteract repression and forgetting.

“For anyone interested in the history of National Socialism, the famous *Black Series* is simply indispensable. It regularly contains the best new research and interpretations on the Nazi era.” – Ian Kershaw

“The *Black Series*, with its eyewitness accounts, documentation and analysis, is an indispensable part of the literature on National Socialism – a triumph of enlightenment.” – Raul Hilberg

“The *Black Series* is an achievement without parallel. It makes the best scholarly contributions available to a general, interested audience, thereby achieving a welcome dissemination of knowledge about the period of the Nazi criminal regime.” – Yehuda Bauer, Yad Vashem, Jerusalem

“The *Black Series* has contributed more than any other book series to ensuring that scientific findings and analyses on the history of the Nazi dictatorship have found widespread acceptance among the German public.” – Ulrich Herbert



ZUR NOTWENDIGEN AUFKLÄRUNG:

100. JAHRE

100 Jahre nach der Gründung der Weimarer Republik ist die Zeit des Nationalsozialismus eine Zeit, die wir nicht vergessen dürfen. In dieser Zeit haben wir die schlimmsten Verbrechen der Menschheit erlebt. Es ist unsere Aufgabe, die Geschichte dieser Zeit zu verstehen und zu reflektieren, um zu verhindern, dass sich so etwas wiederholt.

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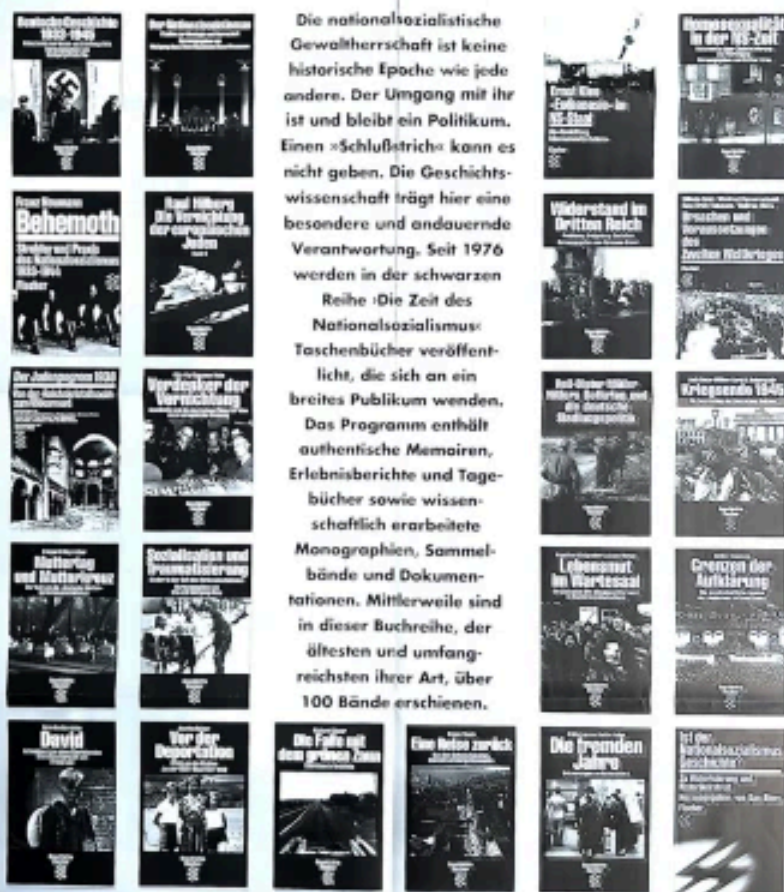
Fischer Taschenbuch Verlag

Erinnern für die Zukunft

»Die Zeit des Nationalsozialismus«

Eine Buchreihe
Herausgegeben von Walter H. Pehle

Die nationalsozialistische Gewaltherrschaft ist keine historische Epoche wie jede andere. Der Umgang mit ihr ist und bleibt ein Politikum. Einen »Schlußstrich« kann es nicht geben. Die Geschichtswissenschaft trägt hier eine besondere und andauernde Verantwortung. Seit 1976 werden in der schwarzen Reihe »Die Zeit des Nationalsozialismus« Taschenbücher veröffentlicht, die sich an ein breites Publikum wenden. Das Programm enthält authentische Memoiren, Erlebnisberichte und Tagebücher sowie wissenschaftlich erarbeitete Monographien, Sammelbände und Dokumentationen. Mittlerweile sind in dieser Buchreihe, der ältesten und umfangreichsten ihrer Art, über 100 Bände erschienen.



Fischer Taschenbuch Verlag



Jürgen Matthäus (Hg.), Frank Bajohr (Hg.)

The Rosenberg Diaries

Rights sold to: Czech Republic, Academia

Brazil, Planeta

France, Flammarion

Spain, Critica



June 2018 · 650 pages

Thilo Bode, born in 1947, studied sociology and economics. He became Managing Director of Greenpeace Deutschland in 1989, and in 1995 of Greenpeace International. In 2002 he founded the consumer rights organisation food-watch in Berlin, which he still runs. His book *Die Demokratie verrät ihre Kinder* was published in 2003. In 2009 Thilo Bode was elected "Social Entrepreneur of the Year" by the Schwab Foundation.

The first complete edition of the long-lost diaries of Alfred Rosenberg, chief ideologue of the National Socialist Party in Germany.

Lost since 1946, the diaries of the NSDAP's Reichsleiter Alfred Rosenberg were only recently discovered. For the first time, they are presented here as a complete edition, with commentary by renowned historians Jürgen Matthäus and Frank Bajohr. Rosenberg's writings show that his role in preparing and executing the Holocaust has long been underestimated: one of the party's most virulent anti-Semites in its founding days, he supported the genocide until its last moments. This key document offers important insights – from the perspective of one directly responsible for the Holocaust – into the dynamics of violence created by the National Socialist regime.

"More than almost any other National Socialist leader, Rosenberg was deeply and fervently committed: until the very end, he believed what he preached."

Jürgen Matthäus und Frank Bajohr

Jochen Böhler

Rights sold to: Poland, ZNAK



June 2006 · 288 pages



© Anne Günther / Universität Jena

There is no doubt that the German Wehrmacht was deeply involved in the crimes committed in Eastern and Southeast Europe from 1941 onwards. But the merciless war of extermination had started already with the invasion of Poland, where thousands of Poles and Jews, civilians and prisoners of war were killed by the Wehrmacht in September 1939. In this pioneering study the author takes a closer look at the background of these events.

Jochen Böhler, born in 1969, studied medieval and modern history, ethnology and economics in Cologne. He is a member of the Working Group Military History and of the German Committee for the History of World War II. Since 2000 he is working as an academic fellow at the German Historical Institute in Warsaw.

Ernst Klee

Ernst Klee Auschwitz, die NS-Medizin und ihre Opfer



March 2001 · 526 pages

© Walter H. Pehle



Ernst Klee, famous for his researches on national socialism, studied hitherto unknown material and files to compile this documentation of the NS-physicians who murdered patients, prisoners of war and of concentrations camps by degrading them to test animals. They received their orders from companies of world renown, university institutes and above all from the Wehrmacht. "The rulers of the Third Reich offered something outrageously attractive to physicians, something hitherto unexisting in the world: instead of guinea pigs or laboratory rats they were allowed to use human beings for research purposes" (Ernst Klee)

Ernst Klee, born in 1942, studied Theology and Social Education, initially publishing on the subject of marginal groups; 1982 Adolf Grimme Prize for his TV film on the life of a woman of restricted growth. His groundbreaking book "Euthanasie" im NS-Staat. Die Vernichtung "lebensunwerten Lebens" was published in 1983. It was followed by 'Dokumente zur "Euthanasie"' (1985) and 'Was sie taten, was sie wurden' (1986) on the post-war careers of the Nazi 'euthanasia' doctors. His book 'Auschwitz, die NS-Medizin und ihre Opfer' earned him the Geschwister Scholl Prize. His most recent publications are 'Deutsche Medizin im Dritten Reich' (2001), showing how the medical perpetrators of Nazi Germany were courted after 1945 while their victims received nothing but derision, and 2003's 'Das Personenlexikon zum Dritten Reich. Wer war was vor und nach 1945', which provoked a great deal of media interest.

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Ernst Klee

ERNST KLEE **AUSCHWITZ** TÄTER, GEHILFEN, OPFER UND WAS AUS IHNEN WURDE

Ein Personenlexikon



June 2018 · 508 pages



© Walter H. Pehle

Ernst Klee, born in 1942, studied Theology and Social Education, initially publishing on the subject of marginal groups; 1982 Adolf Grimme Prize for his TV film on the life of a woman of restricted growth. His groundbreaking book "Euthanasie" im NS-Staat. Die Vernichtung "lebensunwerten Lebens" was published in 1983. It was followed by 'Dokumente zur "Euthanasie"' (1985) and 'Was sie taten, was sie wurden' (1986) on the post-war careers of the Nazi 'euthanasia' doctors. His book 'Auschwitz, die NS-Medizin und ihre Opfer' earned him the Geschwister Scholl Prize. His most recent publications are 'Deutsche Medizin im Dritten Reich' (2001), showing how the medical perpetrators of Nazi Germany were courted after 1945 while their victims received nothing but derision, and 2003's 'Das Personenlexikon zum Dritten Reich. Wer war was vor und nach 1945', which provoked a great deal of media interest.

The first ever biographical dictionary of Perpetrators, Helpers, and Victims in Auschwitz

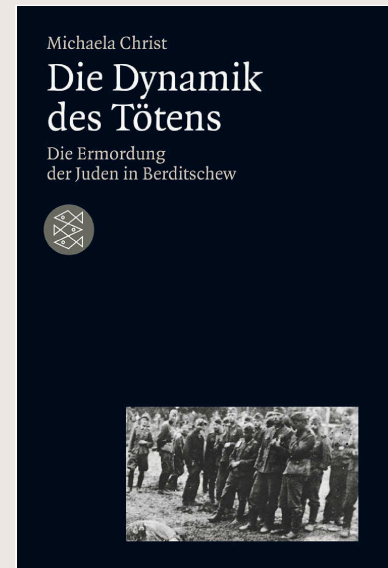
No one has documented as many Nazi war criminals and their post-war careers as Ernst Klee, who made this task his life's work. His latest and last work is a new and unique biographical dictionary. In nearly 4 000 biographies, he presents the entire staff of the Auschwitz concentration camp, from SS murderers to the inmates forced to aid and abet them. He also documents, wherever possible, their lives after 1945. Further, insight into individuals' characters is provided by witness statements where documents allow.

For the first time, the entire personnel of a concentration camp is recorded in biography – an incalculably valuable pioneering effort, and a milestone in historical research which will remain unsurpassed for decades.

"An tireless writer and historian who has never shied away from taboo themes."

Committee awarding Ernst Klee the 1997 Geschwister-Scholl-Prize

Michaela Christ



November 2011 · 352 pages

Michaela Christ studied sociology, politics and teaching in Göttingen. She has been researching into mass violence in the 20th century at the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities, Essen since 2004.

Before Germany invaded the Soviet Union, some 25 000 Jews lived in the Ukrainian town of Berditschew (Berdychiv), a legendary centre of Jewish life. Four months later, at least 18 000 of them were dead – shot by German SS men and police officers. This book traces the process of the violence in detail, its beginning, its course and its consequences.

Harald Welzer (Hg.), Sönke Neitzel (Hg.),
Christian Gudehus (Hg.)

»Der Führer war wieder
viel zu human,
viel zu gefühlvoll«

Der Zweite Weltkrieg aus der Sicht
deutscher und italienischer Soldaten

Herausgegeben von Harald Welzer,
Sönke Neitzel und Christian Gudehus



September 2011 · 464 pages

Dr. phil. Christian Gudehus is managing director of the CMR. Main fields of research are memory studies and reception studies (focussing on film, exhibitions, and memorials) as well aspects of collective violence.

Bugged: soldiers on the inner world of war

How did German and Italian soldiers view the war, the killing, their enemies, their allies, their leaders, the extermination of the Jews? An international research team has examined these questions for the first time, on the basis of more than 150,000 pages of bugging reports produced by British and American intelligence services during World War II – a unique view of the inner world of war.

Frank Bajohr (Hg.), Andrea Löw (Hg.)

The Holocaust



March 2015 · 342 pages

Frank Bajohr, born in 1961, was a researcher at the Forschungsstelle für Zeitgeschichte Hamburg until 2013 and has worked as a fellow at Yad Vashem (Israel) and the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, among others. Since 2013, he is research director of the Center for Holocaust Studies at the Institut für Zeitgeschichte in Munich. His previous books with S. Fischer include: *Parvenüs und Profiteure: Korruption in der NS-Zeit* and *“Unser Hotel ist judenfrei”: Bäder-Antisemitismus im 19. und 20. Jahrhundert*.

- A summation of the last twenty years of international Holocaust research
- Renowned authors, including a seminal contribution by Ulrich Herbert
- Essential reading for students, post-docs and historians

Recent years have given us a wealth of new studies on Holocaust history, with answers to countless historical questions. Here, renowned historians of National Socialism illuminate these insights and collect them in a single volume – discussing perpetrators, the strategies of persecuted Jews, the Holocaust in Eastern Europe and the economic aspects of the unparalleled theft and looting which went hand in hand with the murder of the Jewish people. A long-overdue account of international Holocaust studies and a must-read for anyone who wants to be well informed on the subject.

Ingrid Strobl



February 1998 · 488 pages

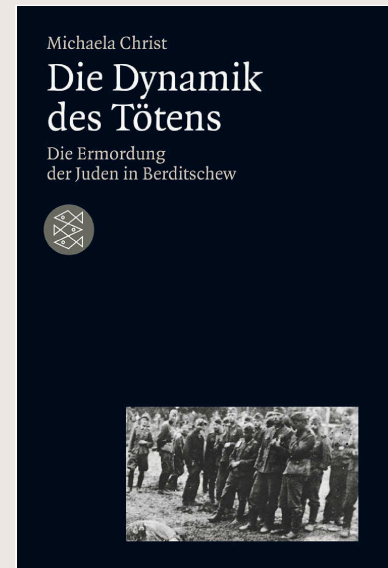


© Walter Breiting

From rescuing Jewish children to “liquidating” Gestapo spies, from manufacturing fake papers to transporting weapons and information, and from France to Poland, Jewish women were actively involved in resistance against the German occupation and the “final solution”. In a comparative study, Ingrid Strobl for the first time examines Jewish women’s involvement in resistance in German-occupied Europe. Using archive material, letters and diaries and almost sixty detailed interviews she conducted with Jewish women resistance activists from around Europe, she sheds a light on a previously hidden chapter of World War II and the Shoah.

Ingrid Strobl, born in Innsbruck in 1952, studied German Literature and Art History, writing her PhD on “Rhetoric in the Third Reich”. She is now a freelance writer in Cologne, mainly working for radio and television and as a non-fiction author.

Michaela Christ



November 2011 · 352 pages

Michaela Christ studied sociology, politics and teaching in Göttingen. She has been researching into mass violence in the 20th century at the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities, Essen since 2004.

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Wolfgang Benz (Hg.), Claudia Curio (Hg.),
Andrea Hammel (Hg.)



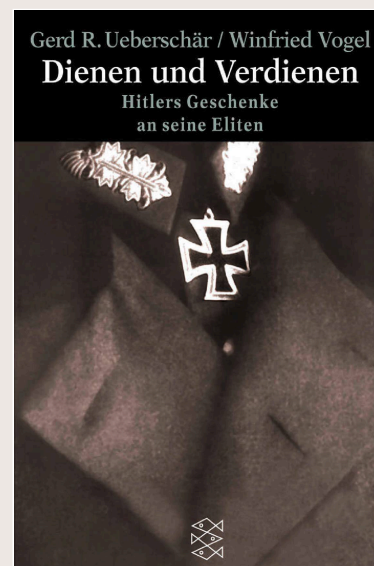
July 2003 · 254 pages

Wolfgang Benz, PhD, born in Ellwangen/Jagst in 1941, is a historian and was a research fellow at the Institute of Contemporary History up to 1990. He has since been Chair of the Centre for Research on Antisemitism at the TU Berlin.

Little is known about the Kindertransport programme to Britain in 1938/39. In this book, a working group of British and German authors from various disciplines presents the latest findings of their research. The volume also contains autobiographical texts written by Fred Jordan, Ilse Aichinger and her twin sister Helga Michie, among others.

Gerd R. Ueberschär, Winfried Vogel

Rights sold to: Japan, Kinseisha



December 2000 · 304 pages

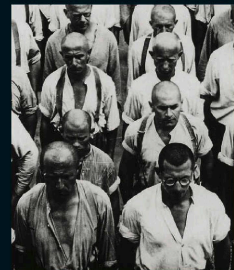
Gerd R. Ueberschär, born in 1943, PhD (Dr. phil.) in History in 1976. From 1972 to 1976, he worked as Scientific Assistant at the University of Frankfurt (Main), from 1976 to 1996 at the Research Institute for Military History in Freiburg, Potsdam and Rastatt, and from 1996 to 2008 in the Federal Archives-Military Archives in Freiburg/Breisgau. Since 1986 he has been lecturer at the University of Freiburg. He has published several books on Contemporary and Military History, such as "Das Nationalkomitee "Freies Deutschland" und der Bund Deutscher Offiziere", "Der deutsche Überfall auf die Sowjetunion", "Der Nationalsozialismus vor Gericht", "Stalingrad" and the monographies "Für ein anderes Deutschland" and "Stauffenberg und das Attentat vom 20. Juli 1944". His books have been translated into several languages.

An unbelievable story: its about enormous sums of money, knightly estates and ample beneficiaries in the Eastern parts of the German Imperium, which Hitler had granted to his faithful followers until the very end in anticipation of the "final victory". Those gigantic gifts were not only promised to henchmen of his immediate surrounding, but also to outstanding personalities especially from the most prominent circles of state and army. The list of receivers of those dowries comprises generals, prominent members of the party and the SS, politicians and artistic as well as ordinary people who had proved themselves worthy. Everybody literally scrambled to get those enviable gifts: not all of them were immediately satisfied by the size and location of the estate and in their avarice shamelessly tried to obtain better provisions and - what became more important in the last phase of the war when the frontlines approached the borders of the Reich, allied bomb attacks became more frequent and the death toll increased dramatically - more quiet and savelly located assets at home, preferably in Bavaria. The book illustrates these still largely unknown facts of corruption and disciplining in detail, asks about the backgrounds and afterwards, how it continued after 1945 until today: Some descendants of those recipients had since 1989/90 the impudence to declare restitutional claims on assets expropriated in the East.

Wolfgang Sofsky

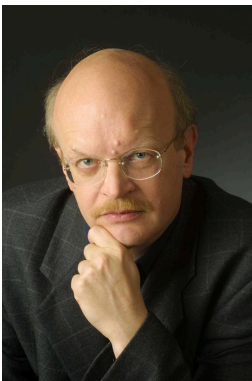
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Wolfgang Sofsky
Die Ordnung des
Terrors:
Das Konzentrationslager



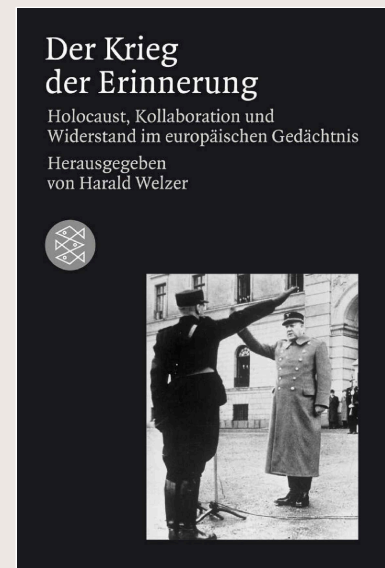
January 1997 · 390 pages

© Wilder



Wolfgang Sofsky, born 1952, teaches as professor for Sociology at the universities of Göttingen and Erfurt. Since 2001 he works as a private scholar, author and political commentator. In 1993 he was awarded the Geschwister Scholl Prize for his work »Die Ordnung des Terrors«. His essays can be read in German press and be heard on the radio regularly.

Harald Welzer (Hg.)



July 2007 · 304 pages

At the latest since his bestseller “Selbst denken“, Harald Welzer is considered one of Germany’s most thought-provoking intellectuals. His initiative “Die offene Gesellschaft“ (“The Open Society“) is part of his intervention, by way of actions, concerts and performances, in political debates nationwide. As director of his foundation “Futurzwei“ (“Futuretwo“), he collects stories about better ways to live and a future that works. He also teaches transformation design at the universities of Flensburg and St. Gallen. S. Fischer most recently published his works “Die smarte Diktatur. Der Angriff auf unsere Freiheit“ as well as “Wir sind die Mehrheit“. His books have been published in 21 countries.

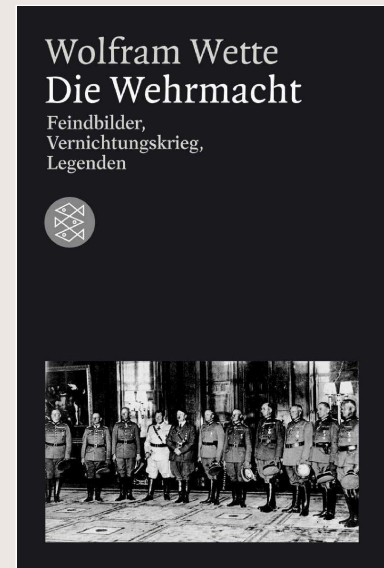
In his highly respected work *Opa war kein Nazi*, Harald Welzer examined National Socialism and the Holocaust in family memory on the basis of German sources. In this new book, he widens his viewpoint and asks what traces World War II and the Nazis’ campaign of destruction have left on the European memory. This is the first study of how the experience of war, collaboration, complicity and persecution is handed down from generation to generation in Europe and what form the memory of war takes in various European countries today.

The work reveals that the image of the German Wehrmacht soldiers in the countries included in the study is more positive than might be expected from the German point of view. At the same time, however, it becomes surprisingly clear to what an extent anti-Semitism has marked the historical consciousness of the post-war generations to this day.

The book shows the role of war and occupation in the present-day European memory, illustrated by the examples of Denmark, Germany, Holland, Croatia, Norway, Switzerland and Serbia.

Wolfram Wette

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Czech Republic, Argo
Spain, Crítica (World Spanish)
Poland, Jagiellonskiego
USA, Harvard University Press (World English Rights)



January 2005 · 376 pages

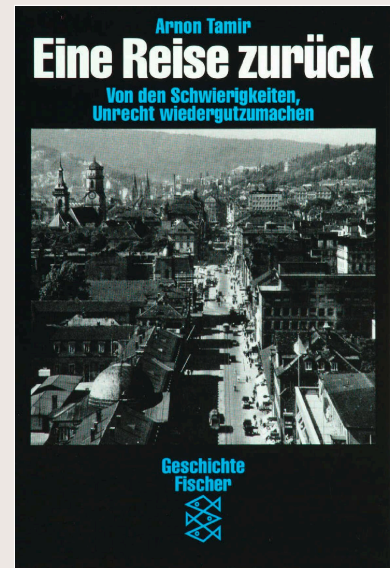


From 1941 to 1945 the Wehrmacht waged a war of destruction. Why did the generals follow Hitler in this respect? The author is the first to show that anti-Russian and anti-Semitic stereotypes had a tradition in the German military. Without the glorification of war and violence, without the longstanding disregard for the international law of war, the war in the east could not have been waged as it was. The fable of the clean Wehrmacht was constructed on this basis after 1945.

Wolfram Wette, PhD, born 1940, historian and freelance writer, 1971-1995 at the German Armed Forces Military History Research Office (MGFA) in Freiburg i.Br.; co-founder of the working circle on Historical Peace Studies; since 1998 apl. Professor at the University of Freiburg; honorary professorship at the Russian University of Lipezk. In the "Schwarze Reihe": Der deutsche Überfall auf die Sowjetunion 1941 (co-editor with G. R. Ueberschär, Bd. 4437); Stalingrad (co-editor with G.- R. Ueberschär, Bd. 11097); Retter in Uniform. Handlungsspielräume im Vernichtungskrieg der Wehrmacht (ed., Bd. 15221); Zivilcourage. Empörte, Helfer und Retter aus Wehrmacht, Polizei und SS (ed., Bd. 15852); Die Wehrmacht. Feindbilder, Vernichtungskrieg, Legenden (author, Bd. 15645); Militarismus in Deutschland. Geschichte einer kriegerischen Kultur (author, Bd. 18149).

Arnon Tamir

A Journey Home



December 1992 · 140 pages

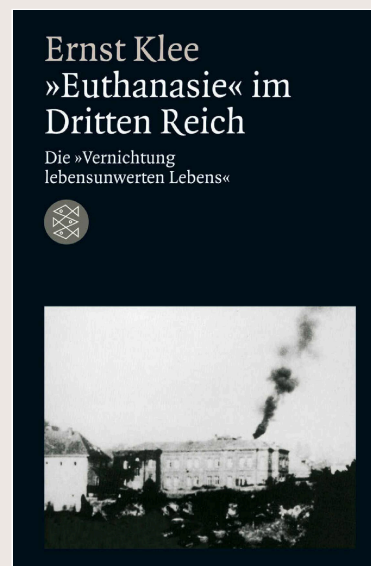
This is the story of a Jewish man born in 1917 in Stuttgart, who was a member of a German Jewish youth movement and was driven out of his homeland in 1938. He immigrated illegally into Palestine and tried to establish a new home for himself alongside likeminded people in the Hasorea kibbutz, which he had to take up arms to defend in 1948. In 1959 he returned for the first time to his hometown of Stuttgart to stake his claim to “reparations”. This is more than a memoir of the city of his youth, of the dreams and humiliations that assail him during his “journey home”. Arnon Tamir also notes the changes in the city and the people who turned their backs on him, and he is pursued in his lost homeland by “visions of guilt”.

This account, a volume of the “Pictures of Lives: Jewish Memories and Testimonies” series, is about the conflict between guilt and responsibility, and the dilemma between utopia and reality.

Ernst Klee

“Euthanasia” in the Third Reich

Rights sold to: I (Santi Quaranta), J (Hihyosha)



November 2010 · 736 pages



© Walter H. Pehle

The definitive work on the Nazi euthanasia programme, based on decades of research in archives in Germany and beyond. This 2010 edition, completely revised, edited and expanded by Ernst Klee, decodes the names of previously anonymized names. Klee was able to prove that the murderous gas vans were used for the systematic elimination of the sick from autumn 1939 onwards. Klee also described the psychiatric “disposal” of SS members whom the mass killings had driven mad. The Wehrmacht too were accomplices and beneficiaries of the campaign of mass murder.

Ernst Klee, born in 1942, studied Theology and Social Education, initially publishing on the subject of marginal groups; 1982 Adolf Grimme Prize for his TV film on the life of a woman of restricted growth. His groundbreaking book “Euthanasie” im NS-Staat. Die Vernichtung “lebensunwerten Lebens” was published in 1983. It was followed by ‘Dokumente zur “Euthanasie”’ (1985) and ‘Was sie taten, was sie wurden’ (1986) on the post-war careers of the Nazi ‘euthanasia’ doctors. His book ‘Auschwitz, die NS-Medizin und ihre Opfer’ earned him the Geschwister Scholl Prize. His most recent publications are ‘Deutsche Medizin im Dritten Reich’ (2001), showing how the medical perpetrators of Nazi Germany were courted after 1945 while their victims received nothing but derision, and 2003’s ‘Das Personenlexikon zum Dritten Reich. Wer war was vor und nach 1945’, which provoked a great deal of media interest.

Ernst Klee received the Max von ...

Without a second thought, the army handed over sick soldiers to psychiatric institutions to be murdered. The book concludes with brief biographies of the criminals and their accomplices while also providing information about the movements of the euthanasia specialists who worked in Belzec, Sobibor and Treblinka extermination camps.

Götz Aly, Michael Sontheimer

Fromms Act

Rights sold to: Japan, Yushokan
USA, Other Press (World English)



January 2009 · 224 pages

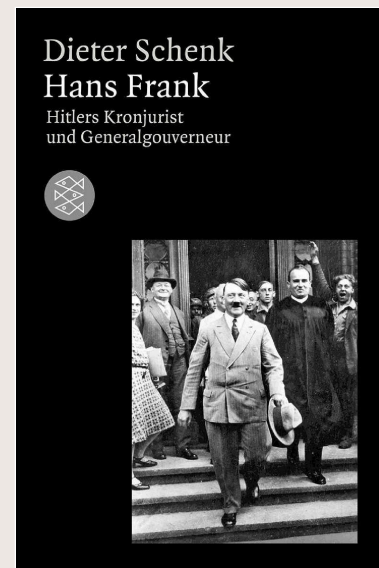
Götz Aly is a historian and journalist who has worked for the taz and Berliner Zeitung newspapers and as a visiting university professor. His books have been translated into numerous languages. He is the recipient of the Heinrich Mann Prize (2002), the Marion Samuel Prize (2003) and the Ludwig Börne Prize (2012). His most recent works are *Why the Germans? Why the Jews? Envy, Race Hatred, and the Pre-history of the Holocaust 1830 – 1933* and *The Burdened Ones: A Social History of Euthanasia 1939 – 1945*.

Michael Sontheimer, born in 1955, studied history, political science and journalism. 1979 - 1983 founding member of the tageszeitung newspaper collective; then editor and author for Die Zeit, 1992 - 1994 editor-in-chief of the tageszeitung, subsequently wrote for Der Spiegel and German and international newspapers. Numerous books, including: *'Antes & Co. - Geschichten aus dem Berliner Sumpf'* (with J. Vorfelder, 1986) and *'Bilder des Zweiten Weltkriegs'* (editor, 2005).

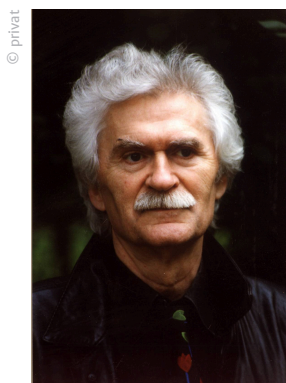
The fate of the company 'Fromms Act', its founder Julius Fromm and his family is a potted political history of everyday German culture. Götz Aly and Michael Sontheimer tell the story of the son of Jewish immigrants who started mass production of condoms in 1923, establishing them in Germany. Hermann Göring arranged for his god-mother to 'obtain' the thriving company in 1938. German administrators diverted Fromm's assets to Hitler's war fund. He and most of his family survived the Holocaust – scattered around the globe. After the war, German Communists nationalised the family's formerly 'Arianised' factories.

Dieter Schenk

Rights sold to: Poland, ZNAK



June 2008 · 486 pages

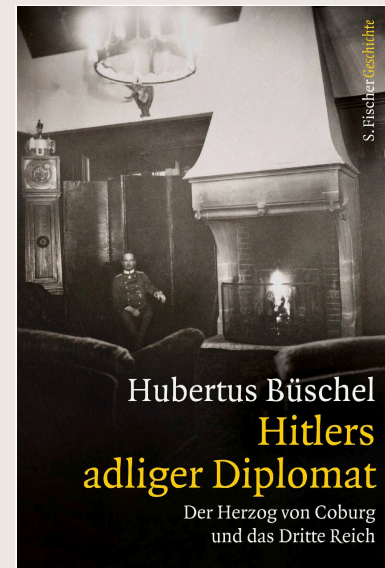


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Dieter Schenk, in 1937, started a career in the police force and was promoted to the Police Leadership Academy in 1973. He was subsequently head of the regional drugs squad in Hesse, head of criminal investigations in Gießen and a director of the Federal Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BKA) from 1980–1989. Schenk left the BKA in 1989 due to irreconcilable differences. Awarded the Fritz Bauer Prize in 2003; honorary professor in Lodz/Poland – books on the Nazis, domestic security and white-collar crime, including “Die braunen Wurzeln des BKA”.

The biography of a fanatical Nazi careerist: in the early days of the movement Hans Frank represented his “Führer” in court; in 1933 he became the Bavarian Minister of Justice and Reich Commissioner for Gleichschaltung of Justice. He brutally “cleansed” his own profession, making injustice the basis of the Nazi state as Reichsminister (from 1934) and President of the Academy of German Law, which he himself founded. In 1939 he became the Governor General of occupied Poland. He was obsessed with pomp and circumstance and one of the most corrupt heads of the Third Reich. Because of his part in the murder of millions of Jews and other “undesired” individuals, he was indicted as a war criminal in Nuremberg and hanged on 10.6.1946.

Hubertus Büschel



May 2016 · 336 pages



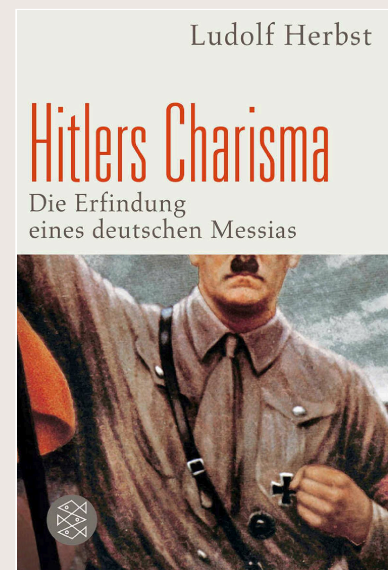
Hubertus Büschel, born 1969, was a junior professor of cultural history at the International Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture in Gießen from 2009 on, as well as at Gießen's Justus Liebig University. Since 2015, he is professor of Contemporary History at the University of Groningen. His most recent books include *Untertanenliebe: Der Kult um deutsche Monarchen 1770–1830* (2006) and *Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe: Deutsche Entwicklungsarbeit in Afrika 1960–1975* (2014).

How an English aristocrat became a National Socialist – the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and the role of the aristocracy in National Socialism

Flags with swastikas flying high, SA and steel helmets marching, Hitler as guest of honour – as early as 1927, the city of Coburg displayed a marked sympathy with Nazism. Significantly, the town was the seat of Duke Charles Edward of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, a fervent admirer of Hitler, and grandson of Queen Victoria. Hubertus Büschel gives an elegant and well-researched account of how the Duke became a National Socialist, and how he worked with and for Hitler – on diplomatic missions, and, as president of the German Red Cross, even denying the Holocaust. A long overdue study of the links between the nobility and the National Socialists – a link which helped legitimize the Third Reich in the eyes of the world.

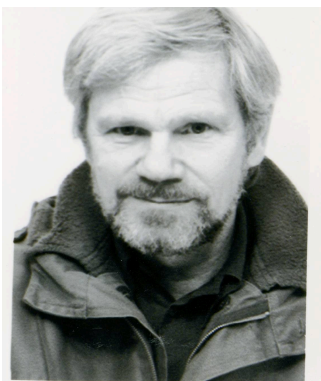
Ludolf Herbst

Rights sold to: Italy, Feltrinelli



November 2011 · 336 pages

© privat



Ludolf Herbst, born in 1943, studied history, German literature, philosophy and political science. From 1983 to 1991 he was Deputy Director of the Institute of Contemporary History in Munich, then a professor of Modern and Contemporary History at the Humboldt University in Berlin up to 2008. He is one of the most respected experts on the Nazi era; his book *Das nationalsozialistische Deutschland 1933-1945* (1995) is a standard work.

All characterisations of the Nazi dictatorship as a 'charismatic rule' are misleading. They are based not only on inappropriate applications of Max Weber's sociology of authority, but above all on an underestimation of the manipulative possibilities of modern propaganda, which the NSDAP commanded like no other party from 1930 on. The author expertly deconstructs the charisma thesis and shows how Adolf Hitler was initially stylised as a messiah in radical right-wing circles and was eventually made the focus of public adoration. 'The central thesis of this book is that Hitler and a small circle of cohorts created the legend of the charismatic leader to exploit people's messianic expectations [...] for the benefit of the NSDAP. The legend of the charismatic "Führer" was thus a coup, a myth that initially fitted in with the propaganda of the so-called Third Reich, was repeatedly picked up in Hitler's speeches and popularised by these means.' (L. Herbst)

Götz Aly

Hitler's Volksstaat

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August 2006 · 480 pages

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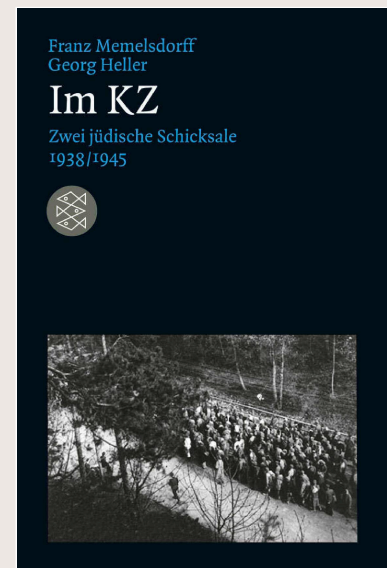


Raul Hilberg on Götz Aly:

"The outstanding quality of Götz Aly's work about the nazi years is his originality. Again and again he picks up a new theme. He will find where no one has sought and will recognize what no one has noticed. In all of his books there is something unexpected. That is why his insightful writing astonishes and impresses his readers. Nothing in these texts is opaque, everything is marked with clarity. One can say it about Aly: Here is a genius."

Götz Aly is a historian and journalist who has worked for the taz and Berliner Zeitung newspapers and as a visiting university professor. His books have been translated into numerous languages. He is the recipient of the Heinrich Mann Prize (2002), the Marion Samuel Prize (2003) and the Ludwig Börne Prize (2012). His most recent works are Why the Germans? Why the Jews? Envy, Race Hatred, and the Pre-history of the Holocaust 1830 – 1933 and The Burdened Ones: A Social History of Euthanasia 1939 – 1945.

Franz Memelsdorff, Georg Heller



January 2012 · 160 pages

Georg Heller, born in Budapest in 1923, was in Auschwitz from May 1944 to January 1945, gained a PhD in mathematics in 1947, went on to study French and Slavic literature in Budapest and then worked as a translator. He fled to Germany in 1956, living in Munich ever since. From 1965 to 1989 he taught Hungarian at Munich University.

Franz Memelsdorff, born in Berlin in 1889, studied law and had a successful career in the civil service. From 1923 to 1933 he was elected to the Prussian and German association of cities. In 1938 he was imprisoned in Dachau for five weeks. He and his family then emigrated to Argentina, where he died in 1958.

Few memoirs reflect the development and effects of Nazism as emphatically as this text. The wealthy Berlin lawyer Franz Memelsdorff spent five weeks in Sachsenhausen concentration camp in 1938, while the young Hungarian Georg Heller was deported from Budapest to Auschwitz in late May 1944, arriving in Dachau with the last death marches. Their authentic reports, one documented immediately afterwards, the other decades later, are published here for the first time.

Wolfram Wette



April 2011 · 284 pages



Wolfram Wette, PhD, born 1940, historian and freelance writer, 1971-1995 at the German Armed Forces Military History Research Office (MGFA) in Freiburg i.Br.; co-founder of the working circle on Historical Peace Studies; since 1998 apl. Professor at the University of Freiburg; honorary professorship at the Russian University of Lipezk. In the "Schwarze Reihe": Der deutsche Überfall auf die Sowjetunion 1941 (co-editor with G. R. Ueberschär, Bd. 4437); Stalingrad (co-editor with G.- R. Ueberschär, Bd. 11097); Retter in Uniform. Handlungsspielräume im Vernichtungskrieg der Wehrmacht (ed., Bd. 15221); Zivilcourage. Empörte, Helfer und Retter aus Wehrmacht, Polizei und SS (ed., Bd. 15852); Die Wehrmacht. Feindbilder, Vernichtungskrieg, Legenden (author, Bd. 15645); Militarismus in Deutschland. Geschichte einer kriegesischen Kultur (author, Bd. 18149).

Karl Jäger was a war criminal directly "on the spot". As an SS-Standartenführer, he led the murder of the Lithuanian Jews, initially in the function of chief of Einsatzkommando 3 (EK 3), then as commander of the Security Police and the Security Service (KdS) in Kaunas/Lithuania. In his activity report dated 1 December 1941, he reported to his superiors the execution of 137,346 Jews and boasted that Lithuania was now "free from Jews". This detailed report is a key document on the history of the holocaust. Who was this police officer from the second level of the SS hierarchy, who saw himself as a soldier? How could a sensitive musician and orchestrion-maker become one of the most efficient mass murderers of the Nazi era? Wette not only describes the German and Lithuanian war criminals, but also gives their victims a face. After the war, Jäger initially lived undisturbed until he was arrested in 1959 and committed suicide in Hohenasperg penitentiary near Ludwigsburg. In his home town in south Baden – where the author lives – the very delayed revelation of Jäger's crimes prompted horror, fears and defensive reactions.

Maren Röger

War Relations

Rights sold to: UK, Oxford University Press (World English)



March 2015 · 304 pages



Violence, sexuality and love in the Second World War – an aspect of Germany’s occupation of Poland that has long been taboo

Officially, German soldiers during the Second World War were barred from fraternizing with Polish women, who were considered “racially inferior”. Nonetheless there were numerous sexual encounters. Some were consensual, some characterized by the most brutal violence. In many cases, women sold their bodies to survive. Maren Röger discusses these encounters as well as measures taken by the Wehrmacht and the SS: while bordellos were supported and indeed organized by orders from the top of the chain of command, love was forbidden and in some cases punished severely. Maren Röger gives insight into everyday life in an occupied country, the racial politics of the National Socialist forces and the fates of the women.

“The occupiers’ power was also power over the bodies of the occupied, control over their sexual self-government.”

Maren Röger

Jan-Pieter Barbian

The Politics of Literature in Nazi Germany: Books in the Media Dictatorship

Rights sold to: USA, Continuum International Publishing Group (World English rights); Russia (Exem / Individuum)



April 2024 · 512 pages

© Friedhelm Krischer



Jan-Pieter Barbian, born in 1958, studied German language and literature, history and philosophy. He has been Director of the Duisburg City Library since 1999 and is the author of the standard work "Literaturpolitik im 'Dritten Reich'". Since then, he has written countless essays on book-related topics, some of which were published in "The consummate Powerlessness. Writers, Publishers and Booksellers in the Nazi State" in 2008. Barbian is considered one of the leading experts on the subject.

The completely revised and updated new edition of the standard work on National Socialism as a media dictatorship

This is the most comprehensive account to date of literary politics in Nazi Germany and of the institutions, organizations and people who controlled German literature during the Third Reich. Barbian details a media dictatorship-involving the persecution and control of writers, publishers and libraries, but also voluntary assimilation and preemptive self-censorship-that began almost immediately under the National Socialists, leading to authors' forced declarations of loyalty, literary propaganda, censorship, and book burnings. Special attention is given to Nazi regulation of the publishing industry and command over all forms of publication and dissemination, from the most prestigious publishing houses to the smallest municipal and school libraries. Barbian also shows that, although the Nazis censored books not in line with Party aims, many publishers and writers took advantage of loopholes in their system of control. Supporting his work with exhaustive research of original sources, Barbian describes a society in which everybody who was not openly opposed to it, participated in the system, whether as a writer, an editor, or even as an ordinary visitor to a library.

"Barbian [...] shows in an unprecedented density of facts how German literature was brought under state control after 1933." - WAZ, Jens Dirksen

Wolfram Wette



December 2010 · 320 pages



Wolfram Wette, PhD, born 1940, historian and freelance writer, 1971-1995 at the German Armed Forces Military History Research Office (MGFA) in Freiburg i.Br.; co-founder of the working circle on Historical Peace Studies; since 1998 apl. Professor at the University of Freiburg; honorary professorship at the Russian University of Lipezk. In the "Schwarze Reihe": Der deutsche Überfall auf die Sowjetunion 1941 (co-editor with G. R. Ueberschär, Bd. 4437); Stalingrad (co-editor with G.- R. Ueberschär, Bd. 11097); Retter in Uniform. Handlungsspielräume im Vernichtungskrieg der Wehrmacht (ed., Bd. 15221); Zivilcourage. Empörte, Helfer und Retter aus Wehrmacht, Polizei und SS (ed., Bd. 15852); Die Wehrmacht. Feindbilder, Vernichtungskrieg, Legenden (author, Bd. 15645); Militarismus in Deutschland. Geschichte einer kriegerischen Kultur (author, Bd. 18149).

The first all-encompassing academic presentation of militarism in Germany

The renowned critical military historian and peace studies scholar Wette shows that the roots of German militarism lie in 18th century Prussia, came to full fruition in the German imperial era and reached their destructive apex in the Nazi period. He traces the development of a system based on education, behaviour and an attitude to the state all highly influenced by militarism from an early point. This social militarization of German society – including women – was to have fatal consequences in the context of Hitler's doctrine of downfall.

Harald Welzer, Sabine Moller, Karoline Tschuggnall

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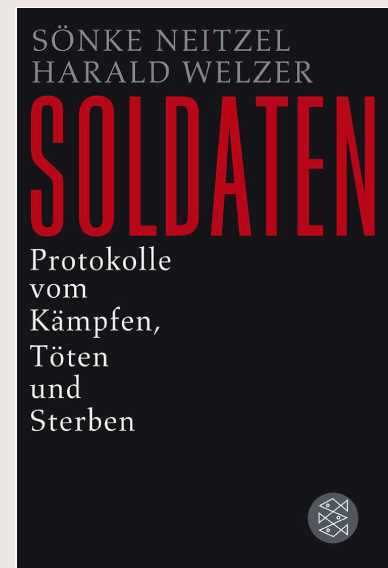


September 2014 · 256 pages

Sönke Neitzel, Harald Welzer

Soldiers

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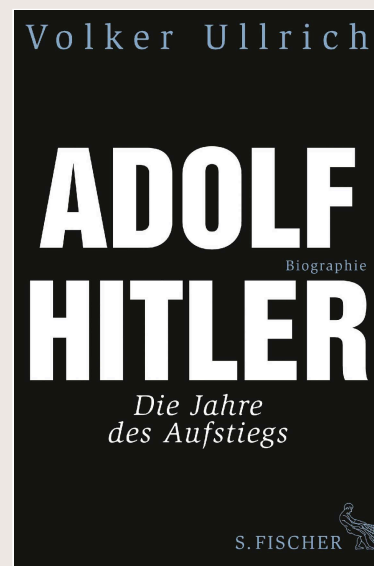
September 2012 · 528 pages

Prof. Dr. Sönke Neitzel, born in 1968, studied History, Political Sciences and Journalism. He has been teaching in Mainz, Glasgow, Karlsruhe and Bern.

On the basis of 150,000 pages of bugging logs, this book presents a convincing history of the mentality of war for the first time. In camps especially set up by the British and Americans, German prisoners of war from all ranks and military branches were secretly bugged. They talked about military secrets, about their views of the enemy, their own leaders and the annihilation of the Jews. The book shows how soldiers perceived the war in historical real-time, presenting a fascinating and shocking view from inside World War II through eyes of the soldiers who laid waste to large parts of Europe. In comparison to other wars, it also establishes what was specific to National Socialism in the German soldiers' feelings and actions, and what was not.

Volker Ullrich

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October 2013 · 1.088 pages

Volker Ullrich, born 1943, studied Philosophy, Literature, and History, in which he also holds a doctorate. He writes for *Zeit*, is co-editor of the *Zeit-Geschichte* magazine, and lives in Hamburg. From 1990 to 2009 he headed the *Hamburger Wochenzeitung's* Political Book Review department. Ullrich has written numerous works on 19th and 20th century history, most recently *Adolf Hitler: Die Jahre des Aufstiegs 1889-1989: Biographie*, published by S. Fischer. For his work in publishing he has been awarded the Alfred-Kerr-Prize and an honorary doctorate from Jena's Friedrich-Schiller-University.

No figure in German history has engendered more scholarship and speculation than the man who like no other has wrought terror and destruction: Adolf Hitler. But who was he really? What qualities marked his character and aided him in his rise to power? In this monumental biography, Volker Ullrich for the first time shows us the man behind the public "Führer" persona: his charming and repulsive traits, his talents and abilities, his deep-seated complexes and murderous drives.

Ullrich has not only studied the vast and ever-growing amount of literature on his subject, he has also entered the archives once again and discovered hitherto unknown sources, many of them in personal bequests. Recollections of Hitler's early comrades are examined as thoroughly as accounts by contemporaries – admirers and detractors alike.

On this basis, the renowned historian and publicist is able to correct clichés and add important facets to our picture of Hitler, particularly with regard to Hitler's private life, his relationships with women, and his social circle in Munich and on the Berghof.

From early beginnings to the height of his power in 1939, this first volume traces the dictator's actually rather halting rise. A masterfully written biography which does not portray Hitler as a psychopath but as a master of seduction and guile – and in so doing, shows all the more clearly the horrors of which he was capable.

Harald Welzer

Rights sold to: Norway, Forlaget Press
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France, Gallimard
Russia, Alpina Publisher



September 2007 · 336 pages



© Debora Mittelstaedt

After the genocides of the 20th century the question remains unanswered: How were all the „perfectly normal men“ – average, harmless people, mild-mannered family men – capable of mass murder? Hardly a single group of people resisted the command to murder. In contrast to historians, social psychologist Harald Welzer examines incidents from various genocides (e.g. in Vietnam, Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia and Rwanda) within their specific social and situational contexts, showing how it can take just a few weeks for killing to become a job like any other.

At the latest since his bestseller “Selbst denken“, Harald Welzer is considered one of Germany’s most thought-provoking intellectuals. His initiative “Die offene Gesellschaft“ (“The Open Society“) is part of his intervention, by way of actions, concerts and performances, in political debates nationwide. As director of his foundation “Futurzwei“ (“Futuretwo“), he collects stories about better ways to live and a future that works. He also teaches transformation design at the universities of Flensburg and St. Gallen. S. Fischer most recently published his works “Die smarte Diktatur. Der Angriff auf unsere Freiheit“ as well as “Wir sind die Mehrheit“. His books have been published in 21 countries.

Götz Aly, Götz Aly (Hg.)



November 2006 · 224 pages

Götz Aly is a historian and journalist who has worked for the taz and Berliner Zeitung newspapers and as a visiting university professor. His books have been translated into numerous languages. He is the recipient of the Heinrich Mann Prize (2002), the Marion Samuel Prize (2003) and the Ludwig Börne Prize (2012). His most recent works are *Why the Germans? Why the Jews? Envy, Race Hatred, and the Pre-history of the Holocaust 1830 – 1933* and *The Burdened Ones: A Social History of Euthanasia 1939 – 1945*.

Until now, the positive or negative mood of the Germans during the Second World War has been merely a subject of speculation. As there were no opinion polls at the time in question, Aly's book carries out historical public opinion research on the basis of specific indicators, with the aim of reconstructing the political mood of the public in the years 1939 to 1945. It does so with the aid of death announcements for fallen soldiers: Did they die "for the Führer" or simply "...fall for Volk and Vaterland"? And how often did the Germans name their children Adolf, Horst and Hermann? Statistics on individuals leaving the church also serve as an indicator of scepticism or trust in the Führer. Death sentences passed by the People's Court against "Arian" Germans are exemplary for the rise of terror on the home front. And finally, the development of the material situation is measured on the basis of increases in savings, conclusions of life insurance policies and pawning of valuables. These indicators enable precise, in-depth statements on the mental and economic mood of the Germans at war.

Götz Aly, Susanne Heim



June 2013 · 528 pages

Götz Aly is a historian and journalist who has worked for the taz and Berliner Zeitung newspapers and as a visiting university professor. His books have been translated into numerous languages. He is the recipient of the Heinrich Mann Prize (2002), the Marion Samuel Prize (2003) and the Ludwig Börne Prize (2012). His most recent works are *Why the Germans? Why the Jews? Envy, Race Hatred, and the Pre-history of the Holocaust 1830 – 1933* and *The Burdened Ones: A Social History of Euthanasia 1939 – 1945*.

New revised edition

The standard work on the young planning elite behind the Holocaust

Thousands of professors, less senior academics and technocrats worked enthusiastically on the joint project of Greater Germany from 1933 to 1945. Young, career-conscious nutrition experts, economists and other pioneering thinkers of the Nazi state regarded Europe as an overpopulated, mainly backward continent, which ought to be ruled and modernised by Germany. They used the 'de-Jewification' as a means for enriching and rationalising the economy. The engineers of the new order pressed for the adjustment of borders and the deportation of many tens of millions of Jews and Slavic people, to create better living conditions for the large majority of the Germans.

Andrea Löw

Deported. "Always with one foot in the grave" – Experiences of German Jews

- A harrowing testimony that is all the more important as the last surviving victims of the Shoah will soon no longer be able to tell their own stories.
- Based on hundreds of letters, postcards, diaries, video recordings and other sources, Andrea Löw interweaves individual stories into a large and collective narrative.
- Stories of people from a number of cities, such as Berlin and Hamburg, Leipzig and Munich, Stuttgart, Cologne, Hanover, Vienna, Wrocław and Szczecin.

Rights sold to: World English (Cornell)



March 2024 · 368 pages



Andrea Löw, born in 1973, is Deputy Director of the Center for Holocaust Studies at the Institute for Contemporary History in Munich. In 2022, she was a visiting scholar at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington. For her book project, she collected hundreds of testimonies from German-speaking Jews - letters and diaries, photos and postcards, written and oral accounts. She found them in archives in Germany, Austria, Poland, Latvia, Great Britain, Israel, Australia and the USA. Her book is therefore unique and of great importance for the education about the Holocaust. Andrea Löw lives in Munich.

The first large, multi-voiced narrative of the experiences of deported Jews

The deportation order was relentless - one suitcase was allowed, there was hardly any time to settle the affairs and say goodbye. Then they were torn from their lives. Starting in autumn 1941, Jews who remained in the German Reich were systematically deported "to the East". Andrea Löw masterfully interweaves their stories into a grand narrative that makes the enormity of the crime emotionally accessible to the reader. By speaking out themselves, the people become visible - as mothers, children, grandparents, as lovers, as young and old. They describe their fears and hopes, the events leading up to their departure, the transport. For most of them, certain death awaits them at their destination; the survivors tell of imprisonment, escape and rescue. They were all people who had to experience the unimaginable - this book brings them very close to us, with all their courage and suffering.

"It is not the eyewitness documents that serve the historiography here, but the historiography that serves the brutally torn biographies of the victims." - *Tagesspiegel*, Konstantin Sakkas

"An important book, impressive and unsparing. Important because it condenses the numerous testimonies of the deportees and forms a strand of memory." - *t-online*, Marc von Lüpke

"Andrea Löw weaves the stories of the Jews who were deported by the Nazis into a polyphonic, unbelievable narrative." - *Focus*

Nadine Olonetzky

Where Does the Light Go When the Day is Over

- This look back into the past changes the perception of our present
- A poetic and unsentimental reconstruction of a family history thought to be lost

English sample translation available



April 2024 · 448 pages



© Patrick Gutenberg

Nadine Olonetzky was born in Zurich in 1962. She is an author, editor and publisher of books about photography. She writes for a variety of publishing houses and publications on photography, art and cultural history, is the author of non-fiction and fiction books.

An untold story about Germany that concerns us all

Only once did her father tell her what had happened to him and his family during the Shoah. It was on a park bench in Zurich's botanical gardens.

Nadine Olonetzky was born into a middle-class family with an appreciation of art in Switzerland, which was spared from World War II. She still wears the jewellery of her ancestors on her mother's side, lies on the sofa she inherited from them and thus knows where she comes from. But what remains of her father's family? Where is that sofa today, where is the jewellery?

Her father only tells her once about what happened to him and his family during the Shoah - on a park bench in Zurich, when she was 15. He was only able to save a small photograph from Stuttgart. But he says nothing about the fact that he fought for compensation for more than twenty years. When she comes across a mountain of files, a new picture emerges and she gets to know her father anew. And Nadine Olonetzky begins to write.

This book probes the shadows of his persecution. It is a story of flight, pain, anger and madness, but it is also filled with love and a will to live, the importance of art, the magic of pictures, the soothing energy of a garden – and the limits of a reckoning with the past.

"Nadine Olonetzky tells the story of her family in a very personal, even intimate way." - *SRF, Tim Felchlin*

"A polyphonic contemporary history and a poignant reflection on concealment and remembrance" - *NZZ Geschichte, Martina Läubli*

Rüdiger Barth, Hauke Friederichs

The Gravediggers

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Sweden, Svante Welyer

United Kingdom, Profile Books (English (worldwide))



April 2018 · 416 pages

Rüdiger Barth, born in 1972 in Saarbrücken, studied contemporary history and general rhetoric in Tübingen. He works as a freelance author in Hamburg.

The last ten weeks of the Weimar Republic, told day by day – a history book that reads like a political thriller

The Weimar Republic is teetering. The economy is in ruins. Street battles rage between left- and rightwingers. In the next few weeks, a handful of men will decide Germany's fate. Hitler is hungry for absolute power, and Goebbels spews fire and brimstone; Chancellor von Papen refuses to resign, while von Schleicher saws away at the branch the chancellor is sitting on. All of them are currying favour with Hindenburg. A dramatic struggle for power ensues, rife with feints, lies, fighting and deception.

The historians Rüdiger Barth and Hauke Friederichs have drawn on diaries, letters and files to paint a colourful, multilayered portrait of a period that seems eerily familiar but was by no means fated to plunge Germany into the abyss.