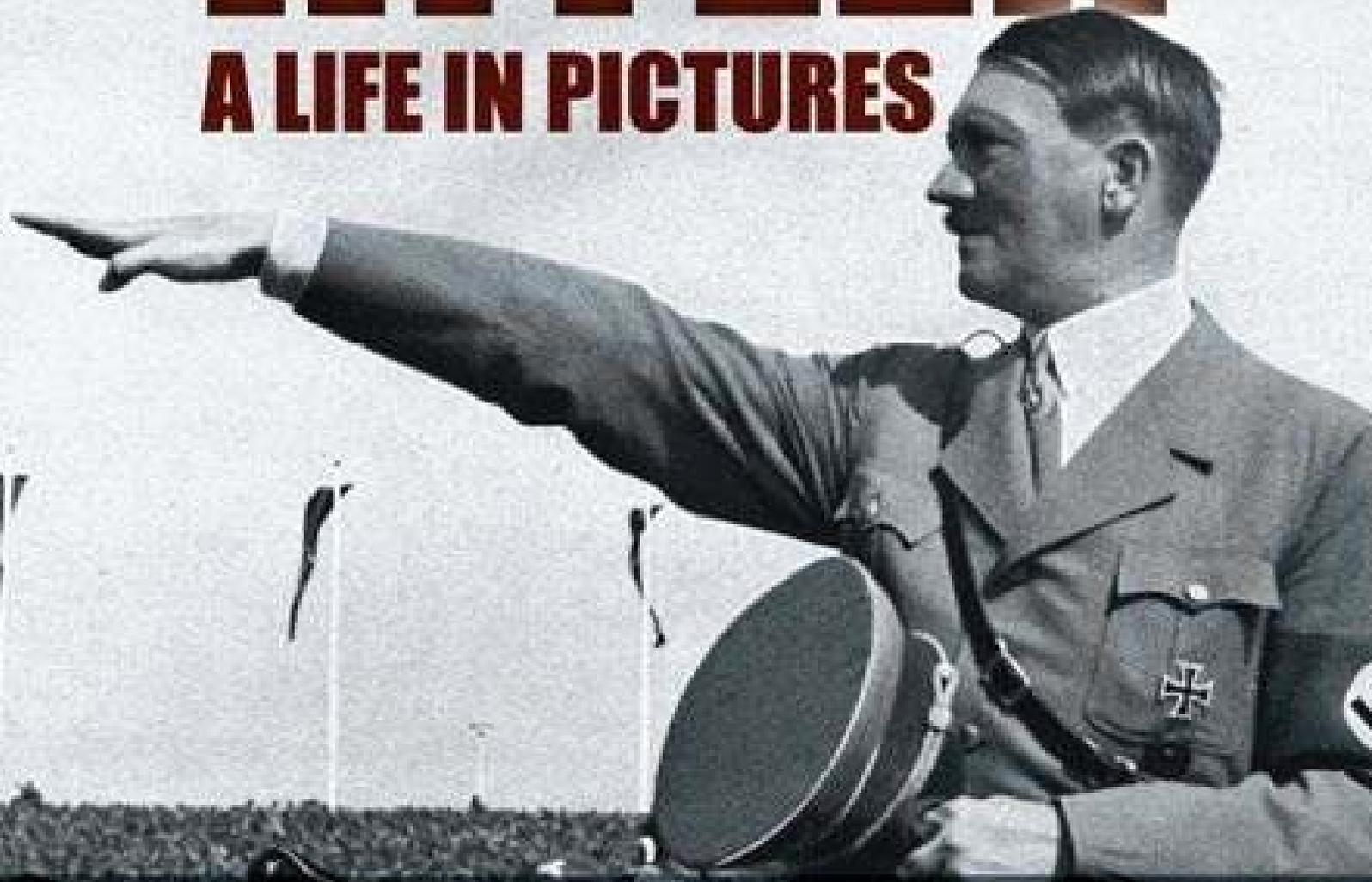


IMAGES OF WAR SPECIAL

HITLER

A LIFE IN PICTURES



THE OFFICIAL THIRD REICH PUBLICATION



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THE OFFICIAL THIRD REICH PUBLICATION

**EDITED AND INTRODUCED BY
BOB CARRTUHERS**



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Introduction

BY BOB CARRUTHERS

HIS BOOK WAS first published in 1935 at the time when Adolf Hitler was promising his devoted followers that he was the herald of 'Thousand Year Reich'. Fortunately for humanity Hitler's boast proved to be as hollow as a treaty signed by his faithful Ribbentrop. In reality The Third Reich proved to be a fleeting episode lasting only twelve years. Of that brief time period six years were the war years from 1939-1945 which are well documented and from which the late Hugh Trevor Roper has salvaged the records of Hitler's private monologues published as 'Hitler's Table Talk'. These startling primary source records provide a candid record of the workings of Hitler's mind during 1942 and 1943 and regrettably forms an all too often overlooked insight into the mind of Adolf Hitler. Together these fascinating transcripts provide a remarkable window into the contorted psychology of Adolf Hitler and clearly demonstrate how his extraordinary mind twisted and turned its way through its own warped logic to reach a series of perverse conclusions which still have the power to shock us even today.

It is unfortunate that no such detailed account of Hitler's thoughts survives from the pre-war period, instead we have to rely upon a few unreliable witnesses and a series of hagiographies such as the work of Heinz A. Heinz who produced 'Germany's Hitler' first published in 1934. However there are surprisingly few primary accounts of those who knew him during his six years in power as a peace-time leader. This exceptional source is probably the best of the contemporary accounts of Hitler in power, albeit from a heavily pro-Nazi stance. With so little to draw upon we are fortunate indeed therefore to have Heinz and his pre-war collection of primary source recollections by those who knew Hitler. The testimonies collected together were based on interviews conducted by Heinz A. Heinz in 1933 and 1934, shortly after Hitler had taken power. Perhaps the best of the accounts published by those who came to oppose Hitler is the work of Otto Strasser published in exile as 'Hitler and I'. Taken together these two books present a conflicting portrait of the man from those who loved and loathed him.

For many years I have been of the opinion that the influence of German nationalism, his willingness to take risks and an innate love of violence for the sake of violence were the key factors which shaped Hitler's *weltanschauung* (or world view). I finally found the time to expand upon this view and in order to establish my proposition in the book 'Hitler's Demons' in which I relied extensively on quotations from Hitler's own version of events as published by him in the pages of *Mein Kampf*. My book relied extensively upon the 1939 translation by James Murphy as published in the United Kingdom by Hutchison and Co. Ltd. as this was the officially sanctioned version during the Nazi era.

Mein Kampf is routinely dismissed as unreadable and this was certainly the case in contemporary circles where many Nazi functionaries, including Göring, privately joked that they had never read the thing. Italian Fascist dictator and Nazi ally, Benito Mussolini, was famously critical, stating that the book was "...a boring tome that I have never been able to read." He also remarked that Hitler

beliefs, as expressed in the book, were "...little more than commonplace clichés." For students of history, politics and general readers with an interest in the period that is certainly not the case. While it is true that large sections of political exposition are rambling and turgid, they do nonetheless repay the reader with an insight into the workings of the mind of Adolf Hitler. The book also contains highly accessible elements of autobiography which are intriguing as they afford us the ultimate primary source glimpse into the private world of Adolf Hitler. On balance I'm sure most readers would side with Winston Churchill who stated, shortly after Hitler's ascension to power, that no other book deserved more intensive scrutiny.

I still believe that Churchill was right. *Mein Kampf* should not be dismissed as readily as is so often the case. We should never lose sight of the fact that Hitler was a masterful politician writing for political purposes. We should obviously approach his words with extreme caution, but they should nonetheless be studied and carefully considered, and where there is no reason to do otherwise, we should be prepared to give them weight. This is especially the case where Hitler's account can be cross referenced with other accounts by the likes of Kubizek and Hanisch. However there are surprisingly few primary accounts of those who knew him during his rise to power.

The volume by Heinz A. Heinz was unknown to me at the time Hitler's Demons was written and although it would not have changed the central thesis of the work, it would certainly have strengthened it. For me, and for many students out there, it represents a treasure trove of additional primary source material on Hitler's pre-war activities which will be of great assistance to many students in years to come. The memoirs of early Nazi functionaries such as Anton Drexler are particularly welcome.

In preparing my own account of the factors which influenced Hitler I relied heavily on the memoirs of Kurt Ludecke entitled 'I Knew Hitler' first published in 1938 which, for many years, were discarded as the vain posturings of a get rich quick fantasist attempting to hitch his wagon to the rising star of one of the most famous politicians in Europe. Increasingly historians have come to reassess Ludecke and in the process have come to accept the essential voracity of much of what he wrote. It is now widely accepted that Ludecke is in essence an accurate, if somewhat self-aggrandising, primary source. Until recent years, and the rehabilitation of Ludecke, scholars and general readers seeking a primary insight into the early life of Adolf Hitler have had to be content with the recollections of his boyhood friend Kubizek and his sometime business associate Reinhold Hanisch; a companion from the Vienna men's hostel. Both of these sources are generally accepted to be accurate accounts of life with Hitler. Add to this the memoirs "Putzi" Hanfstaengl, Otto Strasser, his war comrades and a few recent pieces which have come to light such as Alexander Moritz Frey's account of his war time experiences with Hitler and their subsequent encounters in Munich and somewhat astonishingly, the main sources have all been explored. There is very little else to build upon with the result that the recent sympathetic analysis and acceptance by the wider academic community of the Ludecke memoirs gives us a highly detailed "new" and very welcome source from which to attempt to gain a better understanding of the personal life of the man behind the Third Reich.

What makes the recollections of Heinz and Ludecke especially interesting is the fact that the works were first published in 1934 and 1938 respectively. At that time, although Hitler was already known and feared as the demagogue of the far right, he was not yet the monster which history now knows him to be. At the time Heinz and Ludecke were writing, Hitler's most despicable deeds still lay in the future and we can therefore approach both works safe in the knowledge that, although each was writing about a well-known politician, their subject had not yet achieved the universal infamy which now attaches to his name. Hitler was firmly in power at the time those recollections were published although it is obvious that Heinz in particular needs to be treated with extreme caution as his line

have undoubtedly been strained through the prism of Nazi censorship. However what is clear is that Ludecke was genuine and was not an obvious bandwagon jumper such as the now discredited Jos Greiner who simply invented much, if not all, of his sensational autobiographies. It is fitting therefore that in losing Greiner we have “found” Ludecke and Heinz, the latter of whom is, in my opinion, a highly reliable if somewhat biased source and cross referencing these accounts with other reliable sources only serves to strengthen that opinion.

This book you now hold is a fascinating historical artefact indeed, at the time it was published it was all about celebrating Hitler at a time when he was at the very peak of his celebrity. It is interesting to note that prior to attending a rally at which Hitler was to be featured as a speaker, Ludecke had assumed that Hitler was simply just “one more fanatic” spouting rhetoric on the fringes of the *völkisch* movement. However, the experience of actually hearing Hitler speak at a mass demonstration at the Königsplatz in Munich was to prove a turning point in Ludecke’s life. Awed and inspired by what he had just witnessed, Ludecke underwent a conversion of almost religious proportions. His experience was of such overwhelming intensity that Ludecke immediately decided to adopt Hitler as his heroic idol. Ludecke, in common with so many others was ecstatic in response to Hitler’s amazing powers of rhetoric and as a result was so totally overwhelmed by the occurrence that he appears to have experienced a personal epiphany. Ludecke describes the momentous event in glowing terms: “His appeal to German manhood was like a call to arms, the gospel he preached a sacred truth.” The next day Ludecke was privileged to gain access to the Führer with whom he spoke for four hours and as a result of which Ludecke states that he offered himself to Hitler and the Nazi cause: “...without reservation I had given him my soul.”

Ludecke represents the millions of ordinary Germans who fell under Hitler’s spell and the book you are now reading is a creation of those emotions. It is very much a product of its time. Written by the party big-wigs and published in 1935 under the title ‘Adolf Hitler Bilder Aus Dem Leben Der Führers’ it appeared at a time when they were at the height of their unrivalled powers this fascinating volume encompasses the superb photography of Heinrich Hoffman, the Munich photographer who was ever present on Hitler’s journeys and who grew fabulously wealthy as a result of his intimate access to Hitler. Hitler had an innate understanding of what we would now call public relations. He recognised the excellence of Hoffman’s photography and maintained control of his image by limiting the access of other photographers. He also strictly controlled Hoffmann’s activities and personally selected the portraits which were allowed to go into circulation. That is not to suggest that Hitler wished to limit the flow of images in fact quite the reverse is true. Many of the photographs in the book had appeared with Hitler’s blessing, as cigarette cards which were hugely popular in the thirties.

Interestingly it was Hoffman too who introduced Hitler to Eva Braun, although tellingly there is not a single trace of her in this volume. Hitler soon became more committed to Eva and by the end of 1932 they had become lovers. She often stayed overnight at his Munich apartment when he was in town. Braun worked as a photographer for Hoffmann from 1933 onwards. This position enabled her to travel - accompanied by Hoffmann - with Hitler’s entourage, as a photographer for the NSDAP. Later in her career she worked for Hoffman’s art press.

Hitler initially provided Eva and her sister with a three-bedroom apartment in Munich, but by 1936 Braun was a part of Hitler’s household at the Berghof near Berchtesgaden whenever he was in residence there, but she lived mostly in Munich. Eva also had her own apartment at the new Reich Chancellery in Berlin.

The book contains a section on the Nuremberg party rally accompanied by impressive Hoffman photographs. Eva Braun attended the Nuremberg Rally for the first time in 1935, as a member

Hoffman's staff, but Hitler wished to present himself in the image of a chaste hero so there was no place for her on his arm. In the new Nazi ideology, men were the political leaders and warriors and women were homemakers. He believed that he was sexually attractive to women and wished to exploit this for political gain by remaining single, as he felt marriage would decrease his appeal. He and Braun never appeared as a couple in public; the only time they appeared together in a published newspaper photo was when she sat near him at the 1936 Winter Olympics. The German people were unaware of Braun's relationship with Hitler until after the war.

It is certainly true that women did not play a significant role in the politics of the Third Reich and Eva Braun is certainly a case in point her political influence on Hitler was apparently minimal. She was never allowed to stay in the room when business or political conversations took place, and was sent out of the room when cabinet ministers or other dignitaries were present. She was not a member of the Nazi Party. The book you now hold appears to echo those rules across the whole of German womanhood who played little part in his world and the world of the Nazi supermen.

What the book does incorporate however are sections on Hitler and the German people, Hitler and the German workers, Hitler and public works and so on all accompanied by a series of excellent photographs which form a remarkable record of the public face of a man during his brief spell of absolute power. The Nazis were the first party who harnessed the full power of the media in a coherent and all-embracing manner. They harnessed film, radio, posters, public spectacles and the printed word. This is a classic example of the strength of their presentation skills. It is a compelling time-capsule which conveys vividly in almost visceral way the zeitgeist of the thirties in Nazi Germany. By 1935 the bulk of the German people had fallen in behind Adolf Hitler, and with documents as persuasive as this, it is not too difficult to comprehend the allure of the glittering façade which a stream of publications such as this book sought to create and maintain.

Hitler's crimes against humanity are now synonymous with the fate of the Jews in Germany and throughout occupied Europe. Accordingly *Mein Kampf* has today assumed a key place in identifying the roots of Hitler's anti-Semitism which is often depicted as his life's work. My own view is that nationalism came first with anti-Semitism following behind. *Mein Kampf*, if taken at face value certainly seems to back up that point of view and as such forms a key part of the functionalist versus intentionalist debate. The Intentionalists insist with considerable force that the infamous passage stating that if 12,000–15,000 Jews were gassed, then "the sacrifice of millions of soldiers would not have been in vain," proves quite clearly that Hitler had a master plan for the genocide of the Jewish people all along. Functionalist historians reject this assertion, noting that the passage does not call for the destruction of the entire Jewish people and also stress that although *Mein Kampf* is suffused with an extreme anti-Semitism, it is the only time in the entire book that Hitler ever explicitly refers to the murder of Jews. Given that *Mein Kampf* is 720 pages long, Functionalist historians caution that it may be making too much out of one sentence. On the surface the work of Heinz A. Heinz supports the functionalist view however we should never lose sight of the fact that this is a hagiography which seeks out to laud Hitler. Regardless of which school of thought we fall into, what certainly comes over loud and clear is Hitler's willingness to advocate violent and inhumane solutions to political issues.

My own view generally accords with the Functionalist historians who broadly argue that Hitler had overcome his perceived Jewish opponents in the main by 1935 which was completed with the introduction of the Nuremberg laws, and subsequently his expansionist agenda was his main focus. Many Functionalists have supported the view that the memorandum written by Heinrich Himmler to Hitler on May 25, 1940, regarding the "Final Solution to the Jewish Question," which proposals Hitler accepted, proves that there was no master plan for genocide stemming back to the 1920s. In the

memorandum, Himmler famously rejects a programme of state sanctioned murder on the grounds that one must reject "...the Bolshevik method of physical extermination of a people out of innu conviction as un-German and impossible." Himmler goes on to state that something similar to the "Madagascar Plan" should be the preferred "territorial solution" to the "Jewish Question." However, do remain open to persuasion and re-reading Hugh Trevor Roper's translation of Hitler's Table Talk certainly points to a man who was more concerned with the fate of the Jews than one would otherwise suspect from the surviving historical records.

I trust that you will find the 'new' information as set out in this book compelling and useful. However, the debates stemming from the events of the last century continue to unfold to-day and it is important to keep an open mind. I remain open to persuasion by the structuralist camp and, like many historians, I find that I am increasingly drawn to the middle view with a foot in both camps. In the absence of hard evidence there really is no final answer and the judgement of each individual reader is as valid as the next. What really matters is the sum of the knowledge we accumulate in addressing matters such as these and our willingness to explore the past in a genuine spirit of openness. Hopefully this new volume will make a key historical artefact available to a wider audience and help to add to our store of knowledge of this terrible episode in the history of the twentieth century.

MY FÜHRER, WE are not able to express our thanks in words. Nor can we document in words our loyalty and admiration for you. All our thanks to you, our love for you and our glowing trust in you, my Führer, shines forth today from hundreds of thousands of eyes.

Today, a whole people, a whole nation feels strong and happy because in you there has arisen for these people not only a Führer but also a Savior.

HERMANN GÖRNER
President of the Reichstag
Given before the German Reichstag at Nuremberg
September 15, 1934

WIR vermögen den Dank, mein Führer, nicht in Worten auszusprechen. Wir vermögen auch nicht unsere Treue und Zuneigung zu Ihnen durch Worte zu dokumentieren. Alles, was an Dank, an Liebe und an glühendem Vertrauen zu Ihnen da ist, mein Führer, das ist Ihnen heute aus Hunderttausenden von Augen entgegengeleuchtet.

Ein ganzes Volk, eine ganze Nation fühlt sich heute stark und glücklich, weil in Ihnen diesem Volke nicht nur der Führer, weil in Ihnen dem Volke auch der Retter erstanden ist.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hitler', written in a cursive, stylized script.

Der Reichstagspräsident vor dem Deutschen Reichstag zu Nürnberg
am 15. September 1935

Foreword

BY DR. JOESPH GOEBBELS

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD today and even in Germany there is a great deal of misunderstanding about the notion of Propaganda. Since these misunderstandings are very deep-rooted and mostly based on prejudices, they are very difficult to correct. Yet since the end of the War the German people have had in this regard the benefit of an instructive lesson that could not be any better or more impressive. Historically speaking, in a very short time, Propaganda has proved to be a powerful instrument of the first order in Germany. Today no further proof is required than the fact that Imperial Germany met its downfall under the assault of Marxist Propaganda, and the Marxist Democratic regime was also removed, since it was opposed not only by the Nationalist Socialist ideology but also by National Socialist Propaganda with a new order and a talent that were superior.

Also Propaganda must be understood. It is of no avail at all merely to commandeer a few clever heads as occasion demands. Like every great art, Propaganda has its people who are especially capable in the field; they found a particular school of thought and training schools follow. We must also dismiss the widespread error that maintains that there is something dishonorable or inferior about it. It happens that Propaganda is situated in life and deals practically with the world of appearances. But it has nothing to do with advertising. It allows the best things and persons to speak for themselves, and it takes great care that if something worthwhile is found, its full worth is also described and illustrated.

In this case good things and great men do their own work. People then have to bring themselves without narrow-mindedness to allow words to come naturally. Therefore, the most important characteristic of especially successful Propaganda is that it leave out nothing, but also add nothing which does not pertain to the essence of the subject in question. The characteristic traits of conditions or personalities must be clearly, penetratingly and very simply and artlessly drawn out of the entangled nonessentials, so that it is intelligible and recognizable to the broad masses who must be recruited and whose enthusiasm must be aroused.

For this art National Socialism and its chief deputies have brought not only a natural talent, but their persistent work and indefatigable and close contact with the people they have learned and made use of the most progressive and highest refinement. The Führer himself was its great teacher. It is now well known that in the early days of the Party for a long time he occupied no other office than that of leader of Propaganda, and in his ingenious mastery and administration of this office of the Party he imprinted its real mental and organizational stamp on it. Since by his own nature and character he understood how to speak to the people, whose child he always was and always will be, and to perform his tasks from the heart, the whole love and the colossal support of the trust of his disciples and later of the German people became concentrated on his person. The masses then saw him from the distance at first only as a politician and statesman. His purely human aspect frequently remained in the background.

Today he is known by the whole world as the creator of National Socialist teaching and the builder of the National Socialist State, as the pioneer of a new European Order and the Guide to peace

and well-being for the peoples. But behind this knowledge, untold millions of men throughout the world have a possibly still unclear presentiment of the persuasiveness and fascination of the man Adolf Hitler. The great simplicity and simple greatness that his person radiates impress not only every German but also every instinctively thinking foreigner, penetrating and convincing them. Today he can be for the whole world the man to be appealed to, the one who is rooted in the deepest and clearest way in the feelings and thoughts of modern times, and therefore the one who like no one else has within himself the capacity to grant to this time of ours a new shape and form.

In order fully to understand him in this dimension, one must know him not only as a politician and statesman but as a man. This then is the purpose of this book. It is evidence of his very personality that is brought forward with love and honor by his closest collaborators and oldest battle companions. Here they use their words to publicize a picture of this great man, a picture which heretofore has not existed in this form. They have all known the Führer for many years and they have learned every day to admire him more and more. This is the real value of this book.

The Führer appears here as a person in direct relation to all the questions that are of interest to our time. Happily the German people will grab at this opportunity to see the Führer at close hand and therefore also come closer to him personally.

It is especially fortunate that an opportunity is offered to acquire this book in an easy and inexpensive way, which in turn will give broad access to the masses of German readers. May this be the beginning of a happy and successful venture for the German people.



The Führer in an airplane.

The Führer Traveling

BY SS BRIGADE LEADER JULIUS SCHRECK

NEVER HAS THERE been a traveling statesman who so thoroughly got to know his country and his people as Adolf Hitler. Whether in automobiles, planes or trains, his trips always helped him become thoroughly acquainted with his people.

Even at the beginning of his movement he had the foresight to recognize the importance of the medium of rapid transportation, especially the car, which he used despite the fact that it was not customary at the time. Even today, the Führer still prefers the car, since he feels it important to keep in constant contact with his fellow countrymen and the veteran members of the Party.

As the great political power struggles had shown, through motorization the Führer was far ahead of all his opponents. At that time the Führer was never jostled and crowded by enthusiasts. During these years of struggle, we made very many trips and the going was very difficult. It was only through the presence of mind of authority that we were able to win out in the fighting. But the Führer could not be restrained by any alarming news whatsoever from travelling to the strongholds of his Red and Black opponents, often right into the midst of the remote centers of the Bolshevik organizations and even to the very demonstrations of the Blacks themselves. Many times our car was completely surrounded by thousands of agitated fellow countrymen. But it always happened that at the Führer's gaze the raised fists suddenly relaxed as the people looked up and realized that this Hitler was quite different from the one that had always been described to them. How many bewildered German workers for the first time looked into the eyes of the man who ought to have been their opponent, and at once became fanatical followers of his Movement. Neither newspaper propaganda nor book

achieved this miracle alone. Thus three years after he took power, he could say: “Where is there a statesman like me in the world who after only three years of rule has nothing to fear when he goes out among his people?”



Through his example, the Führer promotes air travel.

Today, when his work and his government duties allow, the Führer does not sit behind in his office, but goes out into the country to meet the people. He sits in his Mercedes and suddenly turns up in this place or that: one day in the Ruhr district, another in Baden, Wurttemberg, Saxony, East Prussia, on the Seaboard... in fact there is no district he has not visited at least once. At the steering wheel, behind the windshield I suddenly hear astonished and enthusiastic cries: “It’s Hitler!” or “The Führer is here!” Often people do not notice at all who is motoring through the town. When the motorcade had passed through, the three black cars attracted people’s attention and then it became

clear to them who it was who had motored by. Later, in similar circumstances, people began to race along with the car, the passage through the street became narrowed by the crowd to an almost alarming extent, and finally we had to stop very frequently so the Führer could give his hand to the excited people and receive flowers, or also, as in one instance, sign a few postcards.

Who is there like me who has had ten years of good fortune to be constantly so close to the Führer, and to live with him on his many journeys? Thousands of unforgettable pictures remain with me from over the years. Out of these trips we get an unshakeable belief in the German people and it is so very heartwarming when you are lucky enough to have the experience of these many days.

The Führer takes long trips only in an open car, and even when it rains he leaves the top down. The trip is an official one. To the advice of his escorts he always had the same answer: "As long as the Storm Troopers and the other service people have to stand in the rain, we too can get wet."



At the Monument to the Fallen in Hiltpoltstein (Fränkische Schweiz).

Thousands witnessed how he, bareheaded and clad in his brown shirt, led the march of the Storm Troopers on the occasion of the return of the Saar, how at the Stralsund election campaign, after a 24-hour flight, he spoke to the waiting crowds in the pouring rain, or how he journeyed in the rain through Holstein to the Adolf Hitler polder and, soaking wet, without a thought for himself, spoke to the Storm Troopers as they too stood in the rain.

Even in his very first car he always sat next to the driver. Today, after fifteen years of chauffeuring him, he, though Reich's Chancellor still takes the same seat. The Führer decides on the travel route himself and loves to use side roads and experience the German landscape off the beaten track.

Earlier, it was even simpler, since the Führer was not as well known as he is today. At that time we were often able to spend the night or take a meal in an inn without being recognized. Today things are different. The news of the Führer's coming spreads like wildfire throughout the towns and villages where our path will lead. In their joy, many use the radio to inform the next village, and then the inhabitants who have never seen the Führer are there to greet Hitler, waiting for the car to arrive. These were such uplifting experiences and I often wished I were a poet so I could find the words to describe skilfully the thousands of little incidents as we experienced them.



The Führer in Franconia.



On his trip through Germany the Führer uses an open car.



Julius Schreck - May 16, 1936

The Party's Farewell To Julius Schreck

TODAY, THE NATIONAL Socialist Movement takes leave of Julius Schreck. It takes leave of one of its oldest and truest. It takes leave of one of its best and most irreplaceable. It takes leave of one of its most unassuming, a man who wanted nothing for himself, and who gave everything for Germany and the Führer.

Wherever fighting for Germany mattered, he was there at the front, both abroad in the World War and at home.

Boundless was his respect and his love for the Führer; tireless his concern for the Führer; circumspect was his thoughtfulness for the Führer's personal safety.

To the last his nature radiated trustworthiness. In the hard times of battle his presence instilled a feeling of security in his Party comrades.

Unflinching was his Judgment of men his affection was as unconcealed as his aversion. A rough broadsword with a warm heart. Feared by opponents, loved by all who counted him as one of them, honored as a fatherly friend by his subordinates.

He had the good fortune to enjoy his Führer's confidence. The Movement lowers its banners at the last salute to Julius Schreck. In doing so it swears that his breed and his spirit will be an example to the young men on the way up, and that in this way he will still serve the Movement far into the future, for the prosperity of our great National Socialist Germany.

BY **RUDOLF HESS**

Once we drove through a place and everybody was out, old and young, the clubs and the school mothers with children in their arms. The main street was quickly transformed into a sea of banners. Girls from the *Bund deutscher Mädchen* tried to bring the car to a stop, but time was pressing. The Führer had to be at another destination at a given time, where hundreds of thousands were waiting for him at a mass meeting. All of a sudden a big, muscular man jumped out of the crowd and onto the radiator of the car. At this point the Führer had to slow down, since the car was already surrounded by all the inhabitants of the place. Each one wanted to shake the Führer's hand. Women with babes in their arms could not reach him. They held up their little ones, Germany's future, over the heads of the enthusiastic crowd, as if they wanted to say: You belong to him!

In describing great men, we also must see the small touches of concern in their lives. Here is one among hundreds of episodes. It is near 10 p.m. as the Führer's car was going in the direction of Würzburg to a special march-in-review in Meiningen. There in the light of the headlights were two Storm Troopers. The Führer had the car stop. They were asked where they were going. "To the next railway station. My comrade can't walk any more and we still have three hours to go." "Get in!" They did not have the slightest idea whose guests they were. We talked generalities and asked whether they had ever seen the Führer. "Yes, today at the march." The car stopped. We had reached our destination. The Führer, who was sitting in front, called to them and pushed some money into each man's hand.

There in the dark of night, a small light was shining on the Führer's face. Both Storm Troopers were struck dumb. Wasn't it the Führer who was speaking with them? Yes, it was he! No word passed their lips because of their great joy and awe. I stepped on the gas and the Mercedes moved on in the dark night. When we reached a turn in the road, we saw the two men still standing where we had left them on the highway, still not recovered from their experience.



On a ride through Germany.



A trip through the Harz Mountains: the Führer too can be gay.



Rest in the woods.

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