

# Himmler

Heinrich Himmler

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Heinrich Luitpold Himmler (German: [ˈhaːnʔç ˈluːtpʔlt ˈhʔml?]; 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*

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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*.

Reinhard Heydrich

*station and took him to see Himmler. Himmler asked Heydrich to convey his ideas for developing an SS intelligence service. Himmler was so impressed that he*

Reinhard Tristan Eugen Heydrich ( HY-drik, [??a?nha?t ?t??stan ????n? ?ha?d??ç] ; 7 March 1904 – 4 June 1942) was a high-ranking German SS and police official during the Nazi era and a principal architect of the Holocaust. He held the rank of SS-Obergruppenführer und General der Polizei. Many historians regard Heydrich as one of the darkest figures within the Nazi regime. Adolf Hitler described him as "the man with the iron heart."

Heydrich was chief of the Reich Security Main Office (including the Gestapo, Kripo, and SD). He was also Stellvertretender Reichsprotektor (Deputy/Acting Reich-Protector) of Bohemia and Moravia. He served as president of the International Criminal Police Commission (ICPC, now known as Interpol) and chaired the January 1942 Wannsee Conference which formalised plans for the "Final Solution to the Jewish question"—the deportation and genocide of all Jews in German-occupied Europe.

He was the founding head of the Sicherheitsdienst (Security Service, SD), an intelligence organisation charged with seeking out and neutralising resistance to the Nazi Party via arrests, deportations, and murders. He helped organise Kristallnacht, a series of coordinated attacks against Jews throughout Nazi Germany and parts of Austria on 9–10 November 1938. The attacks were carried out by SA stormtroopers and civilians and presaged the Holocaust. Upon his arrival in Prague, Heydrich sought to eliminate opposition to the Nazi occupation by suppressing Czech culture and deporting and executing members of the Czech resistance. He was directly responsible for the Einsatzgruppen, the special task forces that travelled in the wake of the German armies and murdered more than two million people by mass shooting and gassing including 1.3 million Jews.

Heydrich was mortally wounded in Prague on 27 May 1942 as a result of Operation Anthropoid. He was ambushed by a team of Czech and Slovak soldiers who had been sent by the Czechoslovak government-in-exile to kill him; the team was trained by the British Special Operations Executive. Heydrich died from his injuries on 4 June 1942. Nazi intelligence falsely linked the Czech and Slovak soldiers and resistance partisans to the villages of Lidice and Ležáky. Both villages were razed; the men and boys age 14 and above were shot and most of the women and children were deported and murdered in Nazi concentration camps.

Operacja Himmler

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

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