



Photo © 2015 Mizuki Productions

Shigeru Mizuki (born in 1922) is one of Japan's oldest and most respected artists. An artistic prodigy, he lost an arm in World War II to a bomb while suffering from malaria. After the war, Mizuki became one of the founders of Japan's latest craze—manga. He invented the *yokai* genre with *Ge ge ge no Kitaro*, and founded the *gekiga*—dramatic manga—movement with autobiographical wartime accounts such as *Onward Towards Our Noble Deaths*.

Shigeru Mizuki has received almost every award the comics industry has to offer. An Eisner award winner, he was also the first Japanese artist to win the prestigious Angoulême Award for Best Comic. In Japan, his scholarly research earned him membership into the Japanese Society of Cultural Anthropology, and he has been awarded the Order of the Rising Sun, the Kodansha Manga Award, and the Shiju Hosho Medal of Honor. In 2010, he was recognized as a Person of Cultural Merit for his contributions to Japanese culture and honored with the Shigeru Mizuki International Cultural Center and Shigeru Mizuki Road and Museum in Sakaiminato.



ALSO BY SHIGERU MIZUKI

Showa 1953–1989: A History of Japan (2015)

Showa 1944–1953: A History of Japan (2014)

Showa 1939–1944: A History of Japan (2014)

Showa 1926–1939: A History of Japan (2013)

Kitaro (2013)

NonNonBa (2012)

Onward Towards Our Noble Deaths (2011)

Story and art © copyright 2015 Shigeru Mizuki/Mizuki Productions. Translation © copyright 2015 Zack Davisson. Forward © copyright 2015 Frederik L. Schodt. This edition © copyright 2015 Drawn & Quarterly. All rights reserved. No part of this book (except small portions for review purposes) may be reproduced in any form without written permission from Shigeru Mizuki/Mizuki Productions or Drawn & Quarterly. Copy editor: Kathleen Fraser. Font design: Kevin Huizenga.

Drawn & Quarterly gratefully acknowledges Presspop Inc. and Maki Hakui for their invaluable assistance with the publication of this book.

drawnandquarterly.com

First paperback edition: November 2015. Printed in Canada.

Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication: Mizuki, Shigeru, 1922– [Hitler, English]. *Shigeru Mizuki's Hitler*/translation by Zack Davisson. Text is an English translation of a French text, which was originally published in Japanese; published in French under title *Hitler* in 2012. ISBN 978-1-77046-210-6 (pbk.) 1. Hitler, Adolf, 1889-1945—Comic books, strips, etc. 2. Heads of state—Germany—Biography—Comic books, strips, etc. 3. Germany—Politics and government—1933-1945—Comic books, strips, etc. 4. Graphic novels. I. Davisson, Zack, translator II. Title. III. Title: *Hitler*. IV. Title: *Hitler*. English. DD247.H M5913 2015 943.086092 C2015-902361-0

Published in the USA by Drawn & Quarterly, a client publisher of Farrar, Straus and Giroux; Orders: 888.330.8477. Published in Canada by Drawn & Quarterly, a client publisher of Raincoast Books; Orders: 800.663.5714. Published in the United Kingdom by Drawn & Quarterly, a client publisher of Publishers Group UK; Orders: info@pguk.co.uk.

von Stauffenberg attended a meeting with Hitler and concealed a plastic explosive bomb in his briefcase. The bomb exploded and many died, but Hitler was protected by a large table leg. The plot was vast, with 7,000 arrested and 4,800 executed.

269 Volkssturm: (People's Storm, October 18, 1944) Order executed by Hitler that drafted all males between the ages of thirteen and sixty into immediate military service. Draftees received very basic military training and only a black armband for a uniform. Used as a last-ditch effort during the battle for Berlin, with about 60,000 Volkssturm soldiers defending the city. Many abandoned their posts when it was clear that they would lose.

270 Führerbunker: An air-raid shelter in Berlin, Germany, that served as Hitler's final headquarters. Hitler took up residence in the bunker in January 16, 1945. Hitler married Eva Braun in the Führerbunker on April 29, 1945, and they committed suicide the following day.

271 Nero Decree: (March 19, 1945) As one of his final acts, Adolf Hitler ordered a scorched-earth campaign of Germany. Prevented by Albert Speer, who rushed from military headquarters to multiple military outposts making sure the order was not carried out.

277 Alfred Jodl: (1890–1946) b. Würzburg, Germany. Oberkommando der Wehrmacht, Chief of the Operations Staff of the Armed Forces High Command. Signed the Commando Order for the execution of all allied prisoners. Injured in the July 20 Plot. Signed the Instruments of Unconditional Surrender on May 7, 1945. Hanged as a war criminal at the Nuremberg Trials. This was later declared an improper verdict, and he was posthumously cleared of charges.

279 Robert Ritter von Greim: (1892–1945) b. Bayreuth, Bavaria. Last commander of the Luftwaffe. WWI flying ace. Scored the first successful attack on an armored tank by an aircraft. Joined the Nazi Party during the Beer Hall Putsch. Promoted to Field Marshal and Commander in Chief of the Luftwaffe following Göring's arrest. Captured by American soldiers and committed suicide with a cyanide capsule.

280 Hanna Reitsch: (1912–1979) b. Hirschberg, Poland. Aviatrix. Nazi test pilot. First female helicopter pilot. Only woman awarded the Iron Cross First Class. Appeared extensively in Nazi propaganda. Created and organized Operation Suicide in 1944 involving German suicide pilots, although it was never put into practice. Captured by allied troops. After release, continued to fly and break aviation records. Dined at the White House with President John F. Kennedy in 1961. Moved to Africa, where she taught the first black African pilots. Died in 1979, possibly of suicide using a cyanide pill personally given to her by Hitler in 1945.

283 Traudl Junge: (1920–2002) b. Munich, Germany. The youngest of Hitler's private secretaries. Was in the Führerbunker at the end of the war and typed his last will and testament. Arrested as a war criminal and later released. Published her memoir, *Until the Final Hour*, in 2002.

283 Clara Petacci: (1912–1945) b. Rome, Italy. Mussolini's longtime mistress while married. Captured and shot along with Mussolini by Communist partisans. Body was hung upside down from a gas station.

264 Otto Skorzeny: (1908–1975) b. Vienna, Austria. Colonel. Personally selected by Hitler to lead the Gran Sasso Raid to rescue Benito Mussolini from the Campo Imperatore Hotel at the top of the Gran Sasso mountain. Helped put down the July 20 Plot against Hitler and fought in Operation Panzerfaust and the Battle of the Bulge. Arrested as a war criminal, but escaped into the Middle East. Returned to Spain, where he founded the Paladin Group specializing in arming and training guerrillas with clients including Muammar Gaddafi. Died in 1975 of lung cancer.

265 Martin Bormann: (1900–1945) b. Wegeleben, Prussia. Early member of the Nazi Party and the Schutzstaffel (SS). Served as Rudolf Hess's chief of staff and built a powerful and extensive bureaucracy. Gained acceptance into Hitler's inner circle. Became the Führer's personal secretary. Per Hitler's wishes, assumed power as the Party Minister after his suicide and helped hide Hitler's remains. Committed suicide by hanging himself off the Weidendammer bridge in Berlin. Rumors persisted that he faked his own death until DNA evidence confirmed his body in 1998.

267 Vergeltungswaffe 1 (Flying Bomb 1; V-1; Buzz Bomb): Early predecessor of the cruise missile. Used largely against Britain in the Blitz campaign.

267 Vergeltungswaffe 2 (Flying Bomb 2; V-2 Rocket; the Retribution Weapon): Successor to the V-1 flying bomb. Liquid-propellant rocket developed during the end of WWII. First man-made object to reach the fringes of outer space. Developed as final retribution weapons to destroy Allied cities in retaliation for bombings against German cities. Nazi government collapsed before they could be put into extensive use, but they were efficient weapons that killed approximately nine thousand soldiers. The developer of the V-2 rocket, Wernher von Braun, was brought to the US following WWII and founded the NASA space program.

268 Claus von Stauffenberg: (1907–1944) b. Jettingen, Bavaria. Militarist. Resistance fighter. Born to an aristocratic family. Joined the military at a young age. Opposed Nazism and Hitler's anti-semitism. Joined the secret German resistance in 1939. Active in several assassination plots. Finally succeeded in bombing with Operation Valkyrie, but Hitler survived. Executed by firing squad.

268 Operation Valkyrie: (July 20, 1944) Also known as the July 20 Plot. Attempted assassination and military coup d'état against Hitler. The goal was to end Hitler's atrocities, seize Germany, and negotiate a peace treaty with the Allies. Working for several years, conspirators made multiple attempts to get close enough to Hitler for an assassination. Finally, Claus



248 General Winter: A nickname for the severe Russian winter, which aided in the defeat of both Napoleon and Hitler.

249 Fall Blau (Case Blue): 1942 strategic offensive in summer Russia, with the intent to capture the Baku oil fields in the Caucasus mountain region. Small gains were made, but the defeat at Stalingrad forced the retreat from the Caucasus.

250 Nikita Khrushchev: (1894–1971) b. Kalinovka, Ukraine. Politician. Premier of Russia. Born to a peasant family. Became involved with the Communist Party. Joined the army as a political commissar and fought in the Battle of Stalingrad. Succeeded Stalin as Premier of Russia and squared off against President John F. Kennedy in the Cold War and the Cuban Missile Crisis. Died of a heart attack.

251 Franz Halder: (1884–1972) b. Würzburg, Germany. General. Career soldier, appointed Chief of the General Staff of the Army in 1938. Involved in several failed plots to remove Hitler from power, until forced to swear a personal oath of allegiance following the Night of the Long Knives. Opposed several of Hitler's war plans, especially Fall Barbarossa, warning Hitler that Soviet Russia was stronger than anticipated. Removed from office after opposing the attack on Stalingrad. Arrested by the Gestapo following the July 20 assassination attempt on Hitler. Postwar, worked as a war historian and advisor to the US army historical division. Awarded the US meritorious civilian service award in 1961.

251 Kurt Zeitzler: (1895–1963) b. Goßmar, Province of Brandenburg. General. Commander of the First Panzer Army during Fall Barbarossa. Promoted to Chief of the Army General Staff following the dismissal of Franz Halder. Requested a retreat from the failed Siege of Stalingrad, then went on hunger strike when Hitler refused. Increasingly insubordinate to Hitler, dismissed from service in 1945. Served as a witness during the Nuremberg Trials.

251 Friedrich Paulus: (1890–1957) b. Guxhagen, Germany. General. Promoted to General of the armored troops and Commander of the Sixth Army. Led the initial invasion of Stalingrad. Requested permission to surrender, which Hitler denied. Ordered to commit suicide, surrendered anyway in 1943 and became a vocal critic of the Nazis. Formed the National Committee for Free Germany and acted as a witness during the Nuremberg Trials.

255 Paulus's Promotion: A tactical decision by Hitler, knowing that never in the history of Germany had an officer with the rank of Field Marshal surrendered. Hitler misjudged Paulus. He became the first Field Marshal to break this military tradition.

261 Mussolini's Illness: Beginning in the 1920s, Mussolini experienced stomach discomfort and pain. He suffered from stomach ulcers and syphilis. Toward the end of the war, reduced to a liquid diet and lost a tremendous amount of weight.

263 Pietro Badoglio: (1871–1956) b. Grazzano Monferrato, Italy. Field Marshal. Succeeded Mussolini as Prime Minister. Assembled an anti-Fascist government. Signed an armistice with the Allies in September 1943 and declared war on Germany in October. Remained in power following WWII, considered an anti-Communist bulwark against the Soviet Union.

230 Philippe Pétain: (1856–1951) b. Cauchy-à-la-Tour, France. Politician. Chief of State of Vichy France. Nominated to office after Paul Reynaud resigned following France's defeat by Germany. Did not cooperate with Hitler and refused to aid in the war against Britain. Removed to Germany after the liberation of France in 1944. Returned of his own accord and was sentenced to life imprisonment for war crimes as head of the Vichy government.

231 Fall Barbarossa (Operation Red Beard): Code name for Germany's planned invasion of the Soviet Union. Involved the mobilization of four million troops, the largest invasion in the history of warfare. Named after Frederick Barbarossa, the medieval Holy Roman Emperor. Invasion lasted four years until Germany's defeat. Hitler planned on a quick victory and did not supply his armies for a long siege. German troops were ill-prepared for the Russian winter. Weapons malfunctioned, and tanks and mobilized infantry were inoperable. It is estimated that more people died during Fall Barbarossa—nearly five million—than in all of the other battles of the rest of the war combined.

231 Vyacheslav Molotov: (1890–1986) b. Kukarka, Russia. Politician. Stalin's right-hand man. Active in foreign diplomacy. After Stalin's death, expelled from the Communist Party and banished.

235 Berchtesgaden (The Berghof): Hitler's home in Obersalzberg, Bavarian Alps. Originally a small hotel called Haus Wachenfeld. Hitler purchased the property and expanded it into a compound and headquarters, one of ten that he used. Other than the Wolfsschanze in East Prussia, Hitler spent more time here than anywhere else during WWII. Bombed to ruins on April 25, 1945, by more than one hundred British Lancaster bombers.

238 Messerschmidt: German aircraft manufacturer.

239 Karl Haushofer: (1869–1946) b. Munich, Germany. General. Geographer. Friend and mentor of Rudolf Hess, who saved his half-Jewish wife and children by issuing them a German blood certificate. Haushofer's son Albrecht was involved in the July 20 plot to assassinate Hitler and was shot by the SS. After the war, committed suicide with his wife to avoid standing trial for war crimes.

244 Wolfsschanze (Wolf's Lair): Hitler's military headquarters during WWII, constructed at the start of Fall Barbarossa. Located in the Masurian Woods, outside the small Prussian town of Rastenburg. A failed assassination attempt on Hitler took place here on July 20, 1944. Destroyed by demolition by the Soviet Red Army in 1945. Heavily fortified, it took eighteen thousand pounds of dynamite to destroy one bunker, and the surrounding area was not cleared of land mines until 1955.

244 Atlantic Charter: (August 14, 1941) A joint declaration setting the postwar goals of the Allied nations, including no territorial aggrandizement or imposition of governments against the will of the people.

248 Walther von Brauchitsch: (1881–1948) b. Berlin, Germany. Field Marshal. Career military officer, named commander of the East Prussian Military District after Hitler's rise to power. Personally disliked Nazism and had a reputation for being kind to civilians. Attempted to talk Hitler out of the invasion of France, but was ultimately instrumental in its fall. Held as a scapegoat and demoted after the failed invasion of Moscow. Died of a heart attack while on trial for war crimes.

focused on entering through the low countries and surrounding Allied forces.

218 Maginot Line: A line of defensive structures including concrete bunkers, weapons batteries, and various obstacles created during the 1930s after WWI. Named after the Minister of War André Maginot, the Maginot Line did not include the Belgium border out of respect for their alliance. The line was rendered ineffective when Germany swept through Belgium and up into France, ignoring the Maginot Line entirely.

218 Erwin Rommel: (1891–1944) b. Heidenheim, Germany. Militarist. Field Marshal. Known as the Desert Fox. Military instructor and WWI war hero, hand-picked by Hitler to lead his personal battalion called the Führerbegleitbataillon. Open critic of Hitler. Never joined the Nazi Party. Popular with the German people, led his panzer tank divisions to a decisive victory in the Battle of France and later in North Africa. Became actively involved in a plot to remove Hitler from power in 1944. Was caught and forced to commit suicide rather than face the scandal of a trial.

220 Albert Speer: (1905–1981) b. Mannheim, Germany. Architect. Commissioner for the artistic and technical presentation of party rallies and demonstrations. Early member of the Nazi Party. Won Hitler's confidence with plans for the Nuremberg Rally, rising to be first architect of the Third Reich and finally Reichsminister. Defied Hitler at the end of the war, prevented the carrying out of the Nero Decree, and was sentenced to twenty years as a war criminal. Wrote several successful books and anonymously donated the royalties to Jewish charities. Died of natural causes in 1981.

223 Luftwaffe (Air Force): Air force of the German Wehrmacht during WWII. Under Hermann Göring, fought the bombing campaign known as the Battle of Britain.

225 Second Vienna Award: (August 30th, 1940) A treaty between Romania and Hungary, negotiated by Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy. Granted northern Transylvania to Hungary. Nullified through the armistice agreement with Romania (September 12, 1944).

225 Veggies: Hitler was a vegetarian, believing it was a healthier diet. He was opposed to animal cruelty and the eating of animals.

226 Yōsuke Matsuoka: (1880–1946) b. Yamaguchi Prefecture, Japan. Politician. Diplomat. In 1933, presided over Japan's withdrawal from the League of Nations. Served as Minister of Foreign Affairs. Charged as a class-a war criminal in the Tokyo Trials, but died in prison before his trial.

226 Saburō Kurusu: (1886–1954) b. Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan. Politician. Diplomat. Signed the Tripartite Pact as Japan's ambassador to Germany. Attempted to negotiate peace with the US prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor. Interned in Hot Springs, Virginia, until 1942. Traded to Japan for American prisoners of war.

226 Galeazzo Ciano: (1903–1944) b. Livorno, Italy. Soldier. Politician. Signed the Tripartite Pact as Italy's Foreign Minister. Married Mussolini's daughter Edda Mussolini in 1930. Executed by Mussolini in 1944. Left behind a diary that was used by William Shirer for his book *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*.

Nazi Germany. Delivered a radio address to the French people stating the Nazis' aim was slavery. Resigned as Prime Minister in 1940. Died of natural causes in 1970.

203 Munich Agreement: Treaty between Germany, France, the UK, and Italy annexing portions of Czechoslovakia to Germany, under the new designation of Sudetenland. An unsuccessful attempt to appease Hitler, it was known by the derogatory term "Munich Betrayal." Nullified on August 5, 1945.

204 Winston Churchill: (1874–1965) b. Woodstock, England. Politician. Fierce opponent of Hitler and Chamberlain's appeasement policies. Raised to Prime Minister during WWII, and oversaw the Allied victory. Defeated in a postwar election. Declared an honorary citizen of the United States by President John F. Kennedy. Died of a stroke in 1965.

205 Emil Hácha: (1872–1945) b. Trhové Sviny, Bohemia. Lawyer. Politician. Elected to President following the resignation of Edvard Beneš. Forced to capitulate by Hitler, he was a puppet ruler controlled by the Nazis. Arrested as a war criminal. Died in prison under mysterious circumstances.

206 Theodor Morell: (1886–1948) b. Trais-Münzenberg, Upper Hesse. Doctor. Successfully treated photographer Heinrich Hoffmann. Hired as Hitler's personal physician. Known for his unconventional treatments. Avoided by most of the Nazi leadership. Nicknamed Der Reichsspritzenmeister (Reich-master of Injections). Captured by the Americans, yet never charged as a war criminal. Died in 1948.

208 Danzig: A former German city. After Germany's defeat in WWI, designated a free city under the Treaty of Versailles. Operated under the direct supervision of the League of Nations.

208 Joseph Stalin: (1878–1953) b. Gori, Tiflis Governorate, Russian Empire. Soviet politician. Dictator. Succeeded Lenin as head of the Communist Party in 1922. Ruthlessly eliminated any opposition to his rule. Played a pivotal role in WWII opposing Nazi forces.

209 Fall Weiss (Case White): Joint invasion of Poland by Germany and the Soviet Union.

212 Blitzkrieg Attack: A battle strategy in which an entire force used a coordinated fast attack pinpointed against a single weak point in an enemy's lines. After a breach is made, the attacker's entire armies swarmed through, then split into two formations to circle around their enemy and hit them from behind. The effectiveness of this tactic surprised even Hitler and his top command, who had invented it.

213 Memorial Day: (November 8) An annual celebration Hitler held to commemorate the Beer Hall Putsch. He delivered a lengthy speech every year. During the 1939 speech, his life was saved from assassination because he started thirty minutes earlier than planned.

215 Operation Weserübung: (April 9, 1940) Germany's invasion of Denmark and Norway, ostensibly to protect the countries from a rumored Franco-British invasion. A land invasion conquered both countries and gained effective control of encircled Norway, which was officially neutral in the war.

217 Fall Gelb (Case Yellow): (May 10, 1940) Code name for the German invasion of France,



196 Eva Braun: (1912–1945) b. Munich, Germany. Hitler's wife. Model and assistant to photographer Heinrich Hoffman, became involved with Hitler at age seventeen. Relationship was never publically acknowledged, as Hitler believed being seen in a relationship would lessen his standing and appeal as a chaste hero. Attempted suicide twice. Married Hitler in the Führerbunker at the close of WWII. Killed herself with cyanide less than forty hours later in a double suicide.

197 Sudetenland: German name for the northern, southwest, and western areas of Czechoslovakia with a majority population of German speakers. Annexed to Germany in the Munich agreement, then reconstituted after the end of the war. Sudeten Germans were largely expelled following the war.

197 Konrad Henlein: (1898–1945) b. Maffersdorf, Austria-Hungary. Reichsstatthalter (Reich Governor) of Sudetenland. Founded the Sudeten-German Home Front (SHF) branch of the Nazi Party in 1933. Took power over Czechoslovakia after Germany's takeover. Committed suicide in American captivity in 1945 by cutting his wrists with broken glass.

197 Joachim von Ribbentrop: (1893–1946) b. Wesel, Rhenish Prussia. Politician. Diplomat. Foreign Minister of Nazi Germany. Ambassador to London. Played a key role in brokering the Pact of Steel with Italy and Russia. Brokered the Munich agreement. Signed the Tripartite Pact. First Nazi executed as a war criminal during the Nuremberg Trials in 1946.

198 Karlsbader Program: Demand issued by the Sudeten-German Party demanding immediate autonomy for Sudetenland and the freedom to adopt the Nazi ideology.

199 Neville Chamberlain: (1869–1940) b. Birmingham, England. Politician. Prime Minister of the UK from 1937 to 1940. Adopted an appeasement policy toward Hitler, which is considered to have strengthened Germany until their invasion of Poland. Resigned in 1940 and was replaced by Winston Churchill. Died of cancer in 1940.

201 Edvard Beneš: (1884–1948) b. Kožlany, Bohemia. Politician. Represented Czechoslovakia during the Treaty of Versailles. Opposed Germany's ethnic claims on the Sudetenland. Resigned as President in 1938 under German pressure and was re-elected postwar. Died of natural causes in 1948.

203 Édouard Daladier: (1884–1970) b. Carpentras, Vaucluse, France. Politician. Prime Minister of France at the start of WWII. Doubtful of Hitler's intentions, pushed into signing the Munich Agreement. Secretly negotiated rearmament with the United States in anticipation of a war with

178 Generalfeldmarschall Werner von Blomberg: (1878–1946) b. Stargard, Prussia. Politician. Commander in chief of the German armed forces. An ardent supporter of Hitler, Blomberg was hand-picked by President Hindenburg to maintain Germany's military tradition. Had intense rivalries with Schleicher and Röhm, which ended with the Night of the Long Knives. Had the military swear an unprecedented personal oath of allegiance to Hitler, called the Reichswehreid. Forced to resign in scandal by Göring, who exposed his wife's career as a nude model and daughter of a prostitute. Chose to support his wife rather than divorce her as commanded by Hitler and resigned in disgrace. Left Germany for the Isle of Capri. Died of cancer in 1946 awaiting trial at Nuremberg.

182 Night of the Long Knives: Officially called Operation Hummingbird, the Night of the Long Knives purged rivals to Hitler's absolute authority, and his old enemies. The list included Gregor Strasser, Kurt von Schleicher, their supporters, Ernst Röhm, many officers of the Sturmabteilung, and Gustav Ritter von Kahr, who had opposed Hitler's climb to power in the Beer Hall Putsch.

185 Führer: A title meaning leader or guide. Hitler used the title unofficially for years as the leader of the Nazi Party before adopting it as his official title once taking absolute power.

185 Tausendjähriges Reich (Thousand-year Reich): A political phrase used by Hitler and the Nazis to mean that Nazi Germany would last for a thousand years. This is an allusion to the millennialism beliefs of some Christians that after the second coming, Jesus Christ will rule in a golden age for a thousand years. In truth, Nazi Germany lasted only twelve years.

186 Engelbert Dollfuss: (1892–1934) b. Texingtal, Lower Austria. Politician. Veteran of the Alpine Front, rose in the ranks as a politician to become Chancellor of Austria. Shut down Parliament and banned the Nazi Party from Austria to resist the Hitler and German unification. Assumed control as dictator. Created his own form of Fascism called Austrofascism and worked with Mussolini to maintain Austrian independence. Assassinated in 1934 during a Nazi takeover.

187 Stresa Front: A short-lived alliance formed by Italy, Britain, and France meant to intimidate Hitler and Germany into obeying the Treaty of Versailles. This united front took no action and was broken when Italy invaded Ethiopia.

188 Francisco Franco: (1892–1975) b. Ferrol, Spain. Militarist. Politician. In 1936, led a rebellion against the popular front government. In 1939, won the Civil War with the aid of Germany and Italy. Established himself as Generalissimo of Spain, a position he held until death.

194 Fall Grün (Case Green): The pre-WWII plan for the conquest of Czechoslovakia. Revised multiple times, initially calling for an invasion in 1937, then 1938, before being abandoned altogether. Hitler finally invaded Czechoslovakia in 1939 using Unternehmen Südost (Operation Southeast). Fall Grün was then used to plan an invasion of Ireland. That also never happened.

196 Heinrich Hoffman: (1885–1957) b. Munich, Germany. Trained as a photographer under his father. Joined the NSDAP in 1920 and became a good friend of Hitler. Became Hitler's official photographer, and the only person authorized to take his photo. Became a millionaire thanks to the royalties on his Hitler photographs. Appointed to the Reichstag. Sentenced to four years for war profiteering.

(SS), Hitler was member #1 and Maurice was #2. Assigned as Hitler's personal driver, had an affair with Geli Raubal, and was dismissed from service.

149 Wehrmacht: The armed forces of Germany from 1935–1946. Consisted of the Heer (Army), the Kriegsmarine (Navy), and the Luftwaffe (Air Force). A reformed armed forces, it replaced the weakened Reichswehr forces the Treaty of Versailles allowed Germany.

151 General Paul von Hindenburg: (1847–1934) b. Prosen, Prussia. Militarist. Politician. Field Marshal of the German army and a revered war hero. President of Germany from 1925 to 1934. Advocate of the concept of Lebensraum (“living space”), spreading the German population through conquering other nations. Appointed Hitler Chancellor of Germany in 1933. Died of lung cancer in 1934.

151 Prince Otto von Bismarck: (1815–1898) b. Schönhausen, Saxony. Politician. President of Prussia. Oversaw the unification of Germany in 1848 and fought wars against Denmark and Austria. Elected Chancellor of the United German Empire. Enacted many reforms in the country, until forced to retire at age seventy-five. Predicted WWI and died at age eighty-three.

159 Franz von Papen: (1879–1969) b. Werl, Westphalia. Politician. WWI war hero. Entered politics after the war. Named Chancellor in 1932, and courted the upper class. His government derided as the “cabinet of monocles.” Lacked Reichstag support and was forced to resign. Accepted a position as Hitler's Vice-Chancellor. After leaving German politics, assigned as ambassador to Turkey and Papal Chamberlain to Pope Pius XI. Found innocent of war crimes. Retired from public life, and died in 1969 at age eighty-nine.

161 Wilhelm Frick: (1877–1946) b. Palatinate, Bavaria. Politician. Served as Reich Minister of the interior in Hitler's cabinet from 1933 to 1945. Instrumental in the racist policy of Nazi Germany. Drafted several laws against Jewish citizens including the Nuremberg Laws that greatly restricted Jewish freedom. Hanged as a war criminal during the Nuremberg Trials.

167 Kurt Baron von Schröder: (1889–1966) b. Hamburg, Germany. Banker. Member of the Nazi Party. Provided financial support to Hitler through the 1930s. Intermediated the meeting between Hitler and Papen that set the stage for Hitler's rise to power. After the war, sentenced to three months in prison as a war criminal. Died in 1966.

176 Marburg Speech (June 17, 1934): Address given by German Vice-Chancellor Franz von Papen at the University of Marburg. Considered to be the last public speech critical of the Nazi Party until the end of the war. Called for an end to the SA abuses and challenged Hitler to be mindful of the old maxim “only weaklings suffer no criticism.” Papen wrote the speech with the help of President Hindenburg. Used as evidence during the Nuremberg Trials.

177 Benito Mussolini: (1883–1945) b. Predappio, Italy. Italian politician. Leader of the Fascist Party. Nicknamed Il Duce, meaning the leader. Became dictator of Italy in 1922 with his March on Rome. Inspired fascist leaders in other countries. In WWII, allied with Germany and Japan to become the Axis powers. Executed by firing squad at the end of the war.

including assaulting the underage daughter of a businessman. Hitler relegated Esser to minor positions such as Undersecretary for Tourism. Served five years' hard labor after the war and died in 1981.

121 Julius Streicher: (1885–1946) b. Fleinhausen, Bavaria. Journalist. Politician. Extreme anti-semitite. Participated in the Beer Hall Putsch. Founded the newspaper *Der Stürmer*, which was a mouthpiece for the Nazi Party and anti-semitism. Orchestrated smear campaigns against Jews, claiming they were white-slavers and pimps, as well as advancing the blood libel. Sentenced as a war criminal and hanged.

121 *Völkischer Beobachter (People's Observer):* Newspaper and official public face of the Nazi Party. Main vehicle to distribute propaganda and Hitler's views during the period when he was banned from public speaking.

126 Edwin and Helene Bechstein: Wealthy owners of the C. Bechstein Pianofortefabrik piano manufacturer. Ardent supporters of Adolf Hitler. Introduced him to Germany's cultural elite in Berlin and Munich. Helene Bechstein declared she wished Hitler was her own son.

127 Angela Hitler Raubal: (1883–1949) b. Braunau, Austria-Hungary. Half-sister of Adolf Hitler, both children of Alois Hitler, Sr. Only one of Hitler's siblings mentioned in *Mein Kampf*. Managed the Mensa Academia Judaica, a boarding house for Jewish students. Moved to Obersalzberg to work as a housekeeper and managed Hitler's private retreat. Upset over Hitler's relationship with Eva Braun, moved to Dresden where she died of a stroke in 1949.

127 Angela "Geli" Raubal: (1908–1931) b. Linz, Austria-Hungary. Half-niece and suspected mistress of Adolf Hitler. From 1929, lived in Hitler's Munich apartment, where he kept her a virtual prisoner. Attempted to flee to Vienna. Eventually committed suicide at age twenty-three. Hitler called her the only woman he had ever loved.

128 Gregor Strasser: (1892–1934) b. Geisenfeld, Bavaria. Pharmacist. Militarist. First gauleiter regional branch leader of the Nazi Party. In charge of propaganda. Killed during the Night of the Long Knives.

129 Joseph Goebbels: (1897–1945) b. Rheydt, Ruhr. Politician. One of Adolf Hitler's most devoted followers. Rose through the ranks from Gregor Strasser's secretary to Reichsminister of Propaganda. Controlled all film, art, and music while in power. An extreme anti-semitite, supported Hitler's Final Solution. One of four people with Hitler when he committed suicide. Murdered his six children by injecting them with morphine and cyanide, then killed himself along with his wife.

135 Houston Stewart Chamberlain: (1855–1927) b. Southsea, England. Author. Married to Richard Wagner's daughter, Eva von Bulow, racist and nationalist writer. Wrote *Die Grundlagen (The Foundations)*, which advocates the superiority of the German race. A member of the Nazi Party, met with Hitler several times before his death.

139 Emil Maurice: (1897–1972) b. Munich, Germany. Early associate of Hitler's and the first Oberster SA-Führer (Supreme Leader) of the Sturmabteilung. When Hitler formed the Schutzstaffel

93 Hakenkreuz (Hooked Cross): The German word for the right-facing, tilted swastika used by the Nazi Party.

100 Heinrich Himmler: (1900–1945) b. Munich, Bavaria. Soldier. Politician. Active with the Nazi Party since the Beer Hall Putsch. Advanced to head the Schutzstaffel (SS) and Commander of the Armies of Germany. One of the most powerful men in Germany. Person most directly responsible for the Holocaust. Committed suicide by cyanide after being captured attempting to escape Germany after the end of the war.

102 Bund Reichskriegsflagge (Imperial War Flag Society): Official name of the paramilitary organization founded by Captain Ernst Röhm in 1923. Instrumental in the Beer Hall Putsch. Afterwards banned as a rival organization to Hitler's own Schutzstaffel (SS).

106 Odeonsplatz Square: A large, central square in Munich. Traditionally, an important site for parades and public events. Hitler's March on Feldherrnhalle and the Beer Hall Putsch ended here on November 9, 1923, in a gunfight between the Nazis and police that killed four police officers and sixteen Nazis.

110 Blood Martyrs: The sixteen Nazis who died during the Beer Hall Putsch became known as the blood martyrs and were honored with a monument and an annual observance while Hitler was in power. The Blutfahne (Blood Flag) was a bloodstained swastika flag recovered from the Battle of Odeonsplatz, and the Blutorden (Blood Order) medal was established and awarded to all those who participated on that day.

114 *Mein Kampf (My Struggle):* (1925) Hitler's autobiographical manifesto. Tells his own story, including his awakening to anti-semitism, and outlines his future plans for Germany. Hitler did not write the book, but dictated it to Rudolf Hess while in prison at Landsberg. *Mein Kampf* sold poorly on initial release but gained in popularity with Hitler's rise to power. The full, original title is *Vierhalb Jahre (des Kampfes) Gegen Lüge, Dummheit und Feigheit (Four and a Half Years [of Struggle] Against Lies, Stupidity, and Cowardice.)*

116 Triple Entente (Agreement of Three): Founded in 1907, the Triple Entente was an alliance of the Russian Empire, the United Kingdom, and the French Third Republic. Dissolved in 1914 when the three countries joined the larger entente powers group, also known as the Allies of WWI.

116 Dawes Plan: Proposed by Charles G. Dawes, the Dawes Plan ended the Allied occupation of the Ruhr region of Germany and allowed for staggered payments of Germany's war reparations debt. Dawes was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1925 for his work on the Dawes Plan.

118 Heinrich Held: (1868–1938) b. Erbach, Hesse-Nassau. Politician. Prime minister of Bavaria. Lifted the ban on Hitler's political activities following the Beer Hall Putsch. Was forcibly removed from office by the Nazis in 1933 and died in 1938.

121 Hermann Esser: (1900–1981) b. Röhmoos, Bavaria. Politician. Early member of the Nazi Party. Hitler's de facto deputy during the early years. Notoriously used his power to abuse women,

86 Occupation of the Ruhr: (1923–1925) After WWI, Germany was ordered to pay war reparations to the nations it had invaded, principally to France. Reparations were exorbitant and destroyed the German economy. Unable to pay, Germany attempted to negotiate reductions. France responded by invading and occupying the Ruhr region in an attempt to force payments. Britain eventually negotiated a truce and reduced German payments, but the occupation increased ultranationalistic and right-wing sympathies inside Germany.

88 Gustav Stresemann: (1878–1929) b. Berlin, Germany. Politician. Served as Chancellor of Germany in 1923, and as Foreign Minister from 1923 to 1929. Negotiated détente between Germany and France, for which he was the co-winner of the 1926 Nobel Peace Prize along with Aristide Briand. Died of a stroke in 1929.

88 Friedrich Ebert: (1871–1925) b. Heidelberg, Germany. Politician. President of Germany from 1919 until his death in 1925. Tried to strike a balance between left- and right-wing parties in Germany. Died of septic shock in 1929 following an emergency appendectomy.

88 Otto Karl Gessler: (1875–1955) b. Ludwigsburg, Württemberg. Politician. Vested with executive power as Reichswehrminister during Hitler's uprising. Retired from politics after Hitler's rise to power. After Germany's defeat, devoted himself to humanitarian causes and the German Red Cross.

88 Hans von Seeckt: (1866–1936) b. Schleswig, Germany. Soldier. After defeat in WWI, in charge of reorganizing Germany's reduced military. Believed in the inevitability of war and worked to maintain the army as an effective force. Created the Wehrmacht armed forces. Later served as an advisor to Chiang Kai-shek. Organized China's armies against the Communists.

89 Gustav von Kahr: (1862–1934) b. Weissenburg, Bayern. Politician. Instrumental in the failure of Hitler's Beer Hall Putsch. Declared martial law and seized power with Otto von Lossow and Hans von Seisser as a triumvirate. Murdered during the Night of the Long Knives for his opposition to Hitler.

89 General Otto von Lossow: (1868–1938) b. Hof, Bavaria. Soldier. One third of the triumvirate in control of Bavaria. Head of the Bavarian state police during Hitler's Beer Hall Putsch. Initially supported Hitler, but then joined the opposition against him.

89 Colonel Hans Ritter von Seisser: (1874–1973) b. Bavaria. Soldier. Along with Otto von Lossow and Gustav von Kahr, declared martial law in Bavaria and took power as part of a triumvirate. Initially supported but then opposed Hitler.

90 General Erich Ludendorff: (1865–1937) b. Kruszewnia, Poland. Militarist. Politician. War hero of WWI. Proponent of the stab-in-the-back theory and a supporter of Hitler. Creator of the Totale Krieg (Total War) theory of national warfare, which states that the entire physical and moral forces of a nation should be mobilized in wartime. Participated in the Beer Hall Putsch. Later lost sympathy for Hitler and distanced himself from the Nazi movement. Died in 1937 of natural causes.

91 Beer Hall Putsch: (November 8–9, 1923) Hitler's initial failed attempt at a popular revolution. Inspired by Benito Mussolini's 1922 March on Rome, where he seized power from the king of Italy.

the 25-point program that became the basis of the National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP), also known as the Nazi Party. The program focused on German unification, ending wealth inequality and debt-slavery via the creation of workers' rights and the abolition of unearned income (i.e., inherited wealth, rent, and capital gains), developing a powerful state with social programs to educate the young and care for the elderly, and ending exploitation of workers and child laborers, combined with racial purity quotas for citizenship and aggressive expansion and colonization policies for "pure" Germans.

76 Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei (National Socialist German Workers' Party; NSDAP): Better known as the Nazi Party, the NSDAP was founded in 1920 and dissolved in 1945 with Germany's defeat in WWII. The party's initial aim was to draw workers away from Communism and into a Nationalistic Socialism, based on the racist, nationalist, paramilitaristic Freikorps culture that arose from WWI. Also known as the Third Reich, the party increasingly followed leader Adolf Hitler's fascist totalitarian policies and concepts of Aryan purity and a master race.

77 Rudolph Hess: (1894–1987) b. Alexandria, Egypt. Politician. Prominent member of the Nazi Party. Helped Hitler write *Mein Kampf*. After the Nazis took power, appointed Deputy Führer and was considered the third-most powerful man in Germany, behind Hermann Göring and Adolf Hitler. After the war, convicted as a war criminal and sentenced to life imprisonment in Spandau prison. Hanged himself in 1987, at the age of ninety-three.

81 Hofbräuhaus Melee: (November 4, 1921) A large public meeting in the Munich Hofbräuhaus that descended into a battle with pro-Bavarian supporters. The Hofbräuhaus Melee showed the strength of Hitler's SA bodyguards.

81 Sturmabteilung (Storm Detachment; Stormtroopers; SA): Adolf Hitler's private army and bodyguards. Originally organized as "hall protectors" to discourage counter-protests during his speeches and rallies. Known officially as the Gymnastic and Sports Division, a name meant to deflect police inquiry. Hitler changed the group's name to the more aggressive Storm Detachment in 1921. Known colloquially as the Brownshirts due to their uniform. Disempowered in 1924 after the Night of the Long Knives and superseded by the SS (Protection Squadron) under Heinrich Himmler.

84 Treaty of Versailles: (June 28, 1919) Peace treaty signed at the end of WWI between the Allies and Germany. Terms required Germany to accept responsibility for the war. Forced Germany to make territory concessions and pay extensive reparations, and severely limited its ability to raise armies. In Germany, these stipulations were known as the "war guilt clauses" and blamed for the country's devastated economy.

84 Treaty of Saint-Germain-en-Laye: (September 10, 1919) Peace treaty signed at the end of WWI between the Allies and Austria. Officially dissolved the Austro-Hungarian Empire and broke the Empire into several independent countries such as Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Yugoslavia. A separate treaty, the Treaty of Trianon, was signed with Hungary.

63 Battle of Ypres: (October 19–November 22, 1914) A battle for the strategically important town of Ypres, Belgium. Famous for showing the unfamiliarity of old-guard commanders on both sides with the technology and tactics of modern warfare. After it became clear neither side could gain a decisive victory, the Germans withdrew.

64 Dolchstoßlegende (Stab-in-the-Back Myth): A widely believed myth among right-wing Germans that Germany did not actually lose WWI in 1918 by combat, but was betrayed by an internal Jewish and Communist conspiracy. Political leaders who signed the November 11, 1918 armistice were considered to be part of this conspiracy and called the “November criminals.” The expression “stab-in-the-back” was evocative of Richard Wagner’s 1876 opera *Götterdämmerung*, in which the warrior Hagen murders his enemy Siegfried with a spear in his back. When the Nazis came to power, they made the stab-in-the-back myth part of official history.

65 Dietrich Eckart: (1868–1923) b. Neumarkt, Bavaria. Wealthy socialite. Journalist. Poet. Politician. Founder of the German Workers’ Party (DAP) along with Gottfried Feder and Anton Drexler. Key early member of the Nazi Party and key supporter of Hitler. Introduced Hitler into influential circles. Arrested following the 1923 Beer Hall Putsch and died of a heart attack shortly after being released from prison in 1923.

65 Anton Drexler: (1884–1942) b. Munich, Bavaria. Locksmith. Political leader. Member of the Thule Society. Founder of the German Workers’ Party (DAP) along with Gottfried Feder and Dietrich Eckart. Convinced Hitler to go into politics after hearing him debate at a beer hall. An early mentor to Hitler. They had a falling out in 1925, and he was removed from leadership positions in the Nazi Party. Died in Munich in February 1942.

65 Gottfried Feder: (1883–1941) b. Würzburg, Germany. Economist. Founder of the German Workers’ Party (DAP) along with Anton Drexler and Dietrich Eckart. Economic theoretician of the Nazi Party. Inspired opposition to “Jewish Finance Capitalism.” Anti-capitalist views were opposed by Germany’s industrialists, which led to his removal from influence. Became a professor at the Technische Hochschule in Berlin. Died in Murnau on September 24, 1941.

66 Deutsche Arbeiterpartei (German Workers’ Party; DAP): Short-lived predecessor to the Nazi Party. Founded by Anton Drexler, Dietrich Eckart, Gottfried Feder, and a few others. Joined by Adolf Hitler in 1919, who became the party’s fifty-fifth member and seventh executive member. Hitler quickly rose to prominence and influenced the DAP’s political beliefs. Membership rose, due to Hitler’s oratory skills, to over two thousand members. Renamed the National Socialist Workers’ Party (Nazis) on February 24, 1920.

73 Captain Ernst Röhm: (1887–1934) b. Munich, Bavaria. Soldier. Veteran of WWI. Recipient of the iron cross, first class. Joined the DAP in 1919. Served as the chief-of-staff of the Nazi SA stormtroopers. Executed as a potential rival for leadership during the Night of the Long Knives.

76 Staatliches Hofbräuhaus in München: (February 20, 1920) At an event held during the Munich Festsaal of the Hofbräuhaus, Hitler spoke to over two thousand people and announced

NOTES

37 August “Gustl” Kubizek: (1888–1956) b. Austria. Musician. A close friend of Adolf Hitler. The two roomed together in Vienna. After losing contact, they reunited when Hitler was elected Chancellor of Germany. Kubizek wrote *Adolf Hitler, Mein Juggenfreund (Adolf Hitler, My Childhood Friend)* in 1951.

40 Realschule: A type of secondary school in Germany, Austria, and other countries. Students generally attend between the ages of ten and seventeen, and successful graduation qualifies you for gymnasium higher education. In his book *Mein Kampf*, Hitler claims that he purposefully did poorly at realschule in rebellion against his father and the mundane path laid out before him.

41 Wilhelm Richard Wagner: (1813–1883) b. Leipzig, Germany. One of Germany’s most famous composers, he created classic operas such as *Der Ring des Nibelungen* and *Tristan und Isolde*. Anti-semitic and nationalistic, Wagner was a great influence on Adolf Hitler.

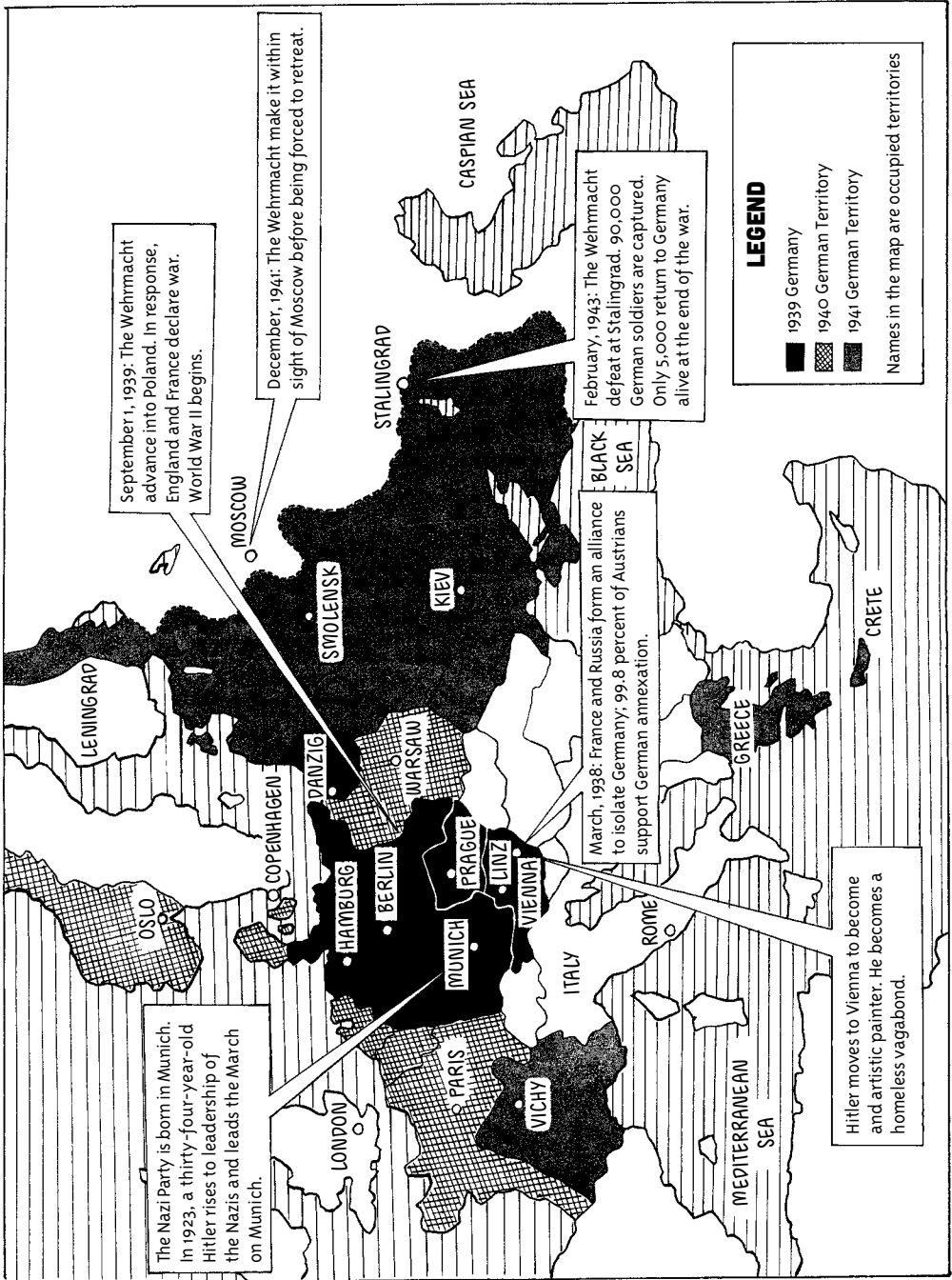
44 Meldemannstraße Men’s Dormitory: A charitable foundation that aimed at reducing the number of Vienna’s homeless population. Adolf Hitler lived here for three years, from 1910 to 1913.

45 Reinhold Hanisch: (1884–1937) b. Grünwald, Bohemia. Painter. Roommate and sometimes business partner of Adolf Hitler. Published several articles about Hitler’s Vienna years and disputed claims Hitler made in *Mein Kampf*. Sold forged paintings claiming they were Hitler originals. Died in prison in 1937 under mysterious circumstances.

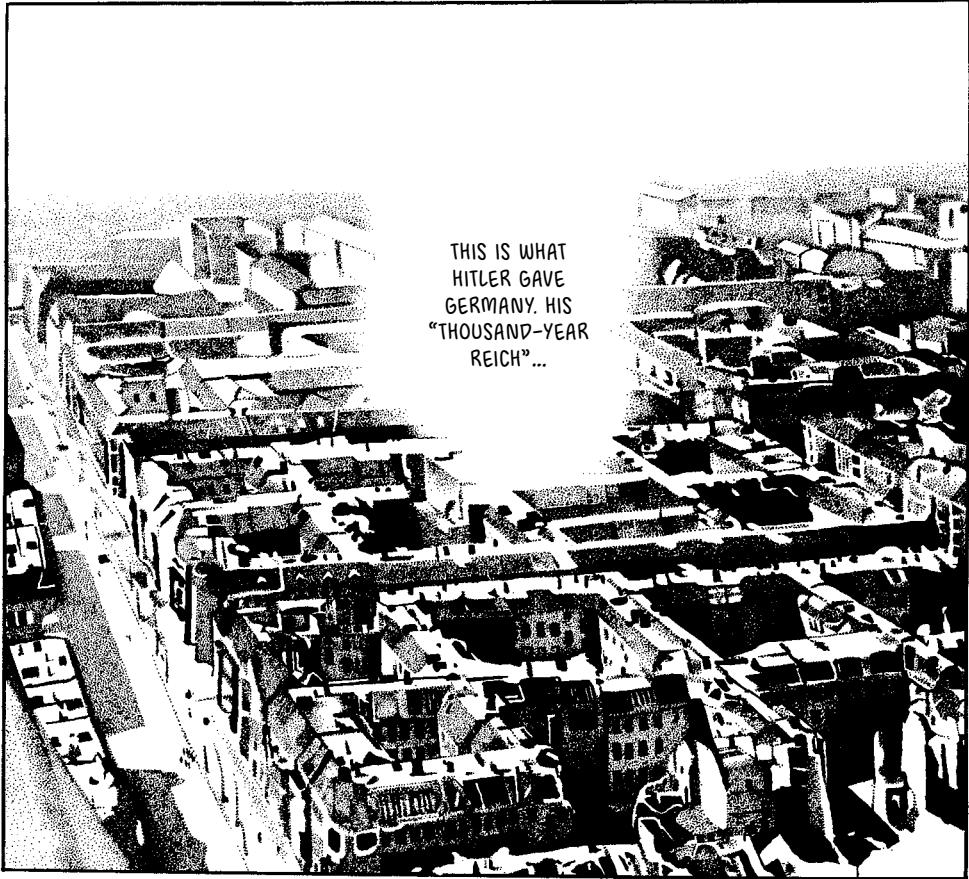
53 Josef Greiner: (1886–unknown) b. Styria, Austria. Writer. Roomed with Hitler during his stay in Munich. Later tried to capitalize on this experience. Wrote *His Struggle and Victory: A Memoir of Adolf Hitler* in 1938, which failed to sell. The Nazi Party refers to him as an extortionist. After the war, in 1947, wrote *The End of the Hitler Myth*. His books have been dismissed as easily disproved lies and self-aggrandizement.

55 Habsburg Dynasty: One of the most important royal houses of Europe, the Habsburg family ruled Austria-Hungary until 1918 at the end of WWI. The last Habsburg ruler was Charles I.

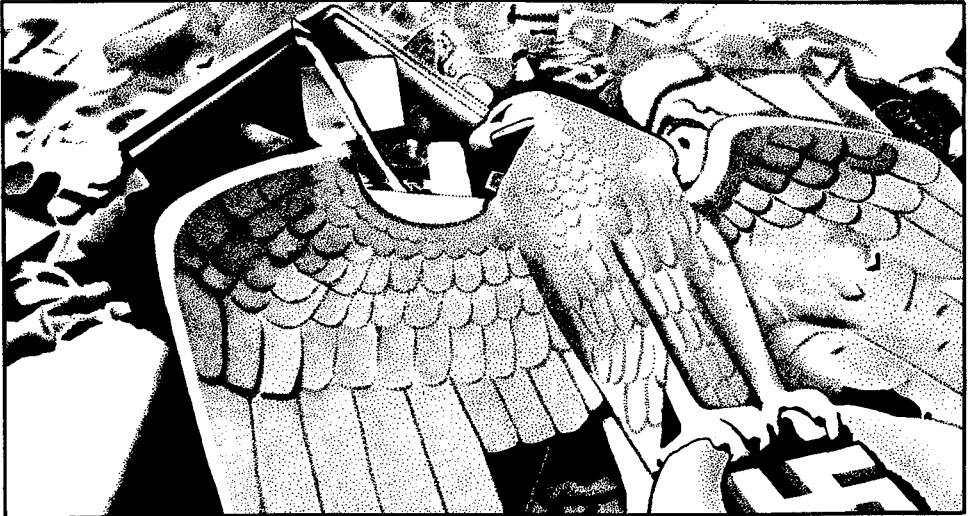
57 “Deutschlandlied” (The Song of Germany): Composed in 1797 by Joseph Haydn, lyrics added in 1841 by August von Fallersleben. Officially chosen as the national anthem of Germany in 1922. The quoted lyrics in English are: “Germany, Germany above all. Above all in the world. When for protection and defense, it always takes a brotherly stand together.”







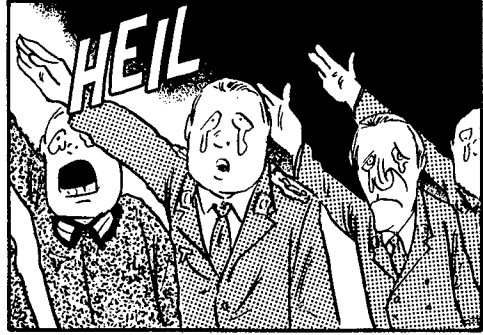
THIS IS WHAT
HITLER GAVE
GERMANY. HIS
"THOUSAND-YEAR
REICH"...



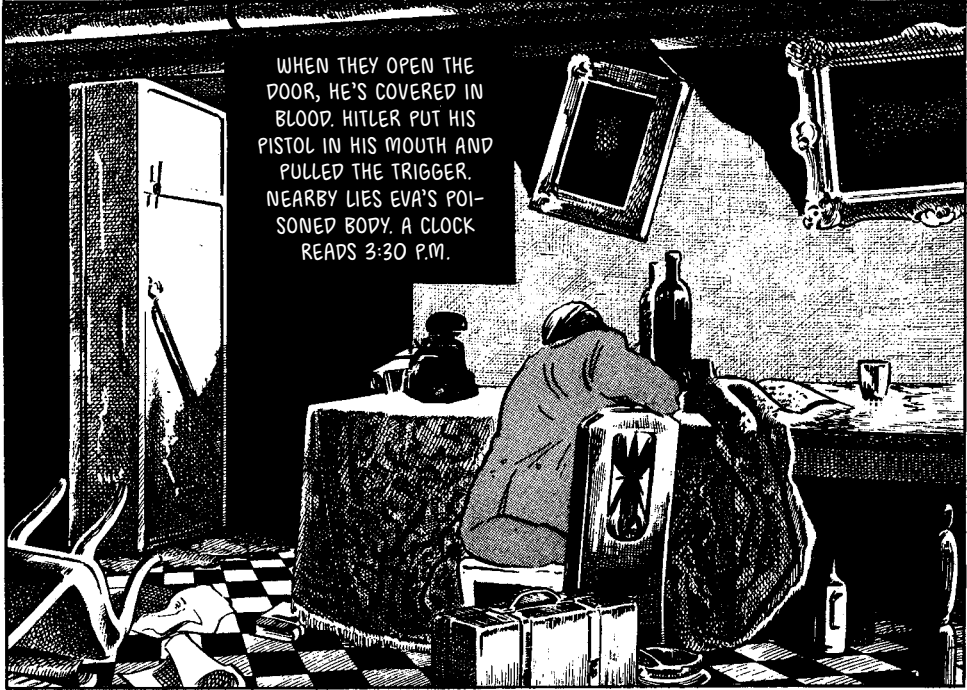


GERMANY LIES IN RUINS...





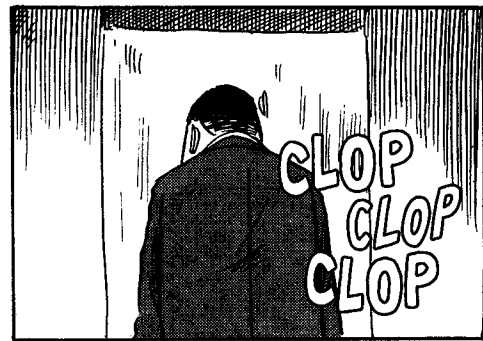
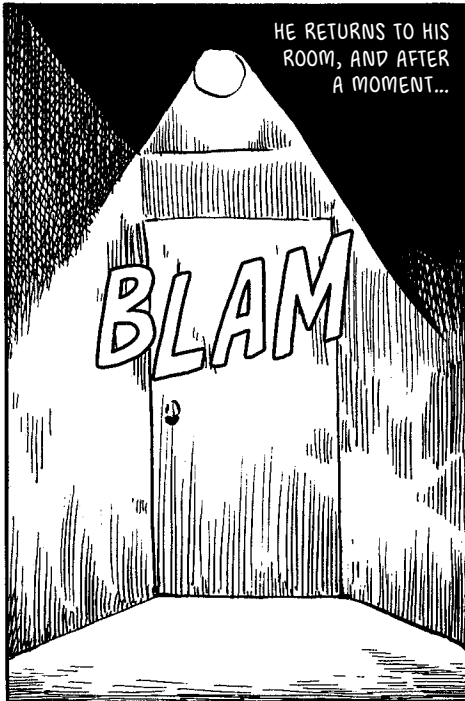
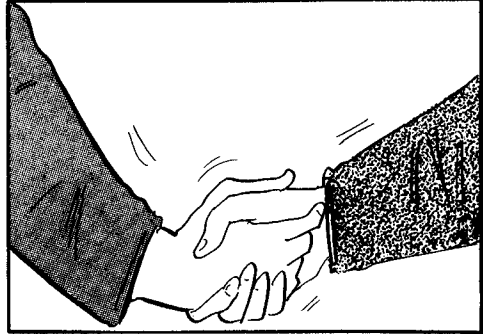
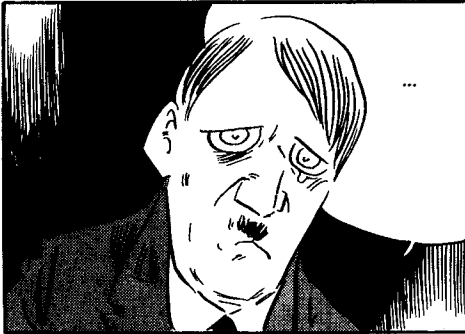
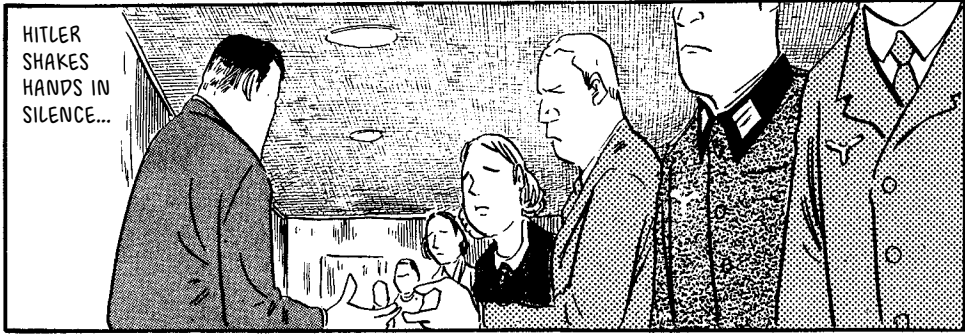
GOEBBELS FOLLOWS WITH HIS
FAMILY...IN THE CAMPS,
THE JEWISH CORPSES
ARE UNCOUNTABLE...

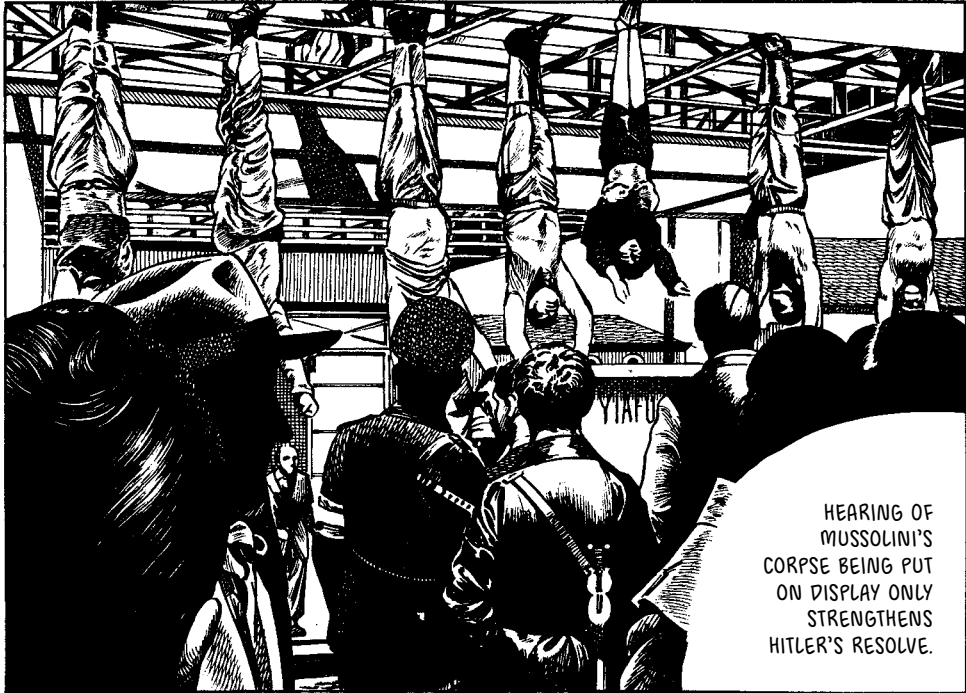


WHEN THEY OPEN THE DOOR, HE'S COVERED IN BLOOD. HITLER PUT HIS PISTOL IN HIS MOUTH AND PULLED THE TRIGGER. NEARBY LIES EVA'S POISONED BODY. A CLOCK READS 3:30 P.M.

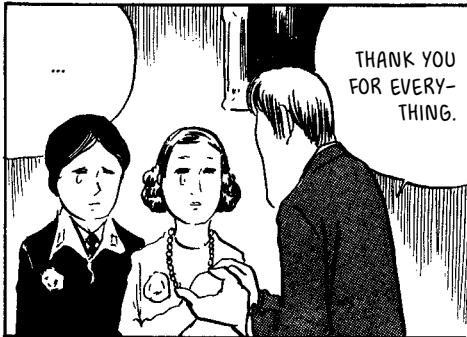


THEIR BODIES ARE COVERED IN GASOLINE AND BURNED.

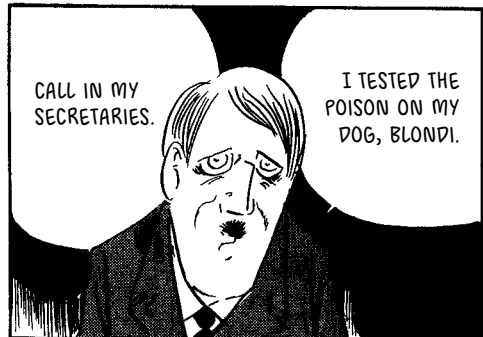




HEARING OF
MUSSOLINI'S
CORPSE BEING PUT
ON DISPLAY ONLY
STRENGTHENS
HITLER'S RESOLVE.

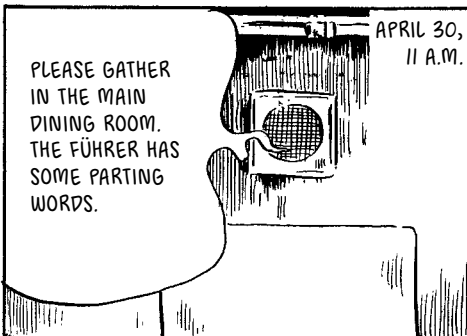


THANK YOU
FOR EVERY-
THING.



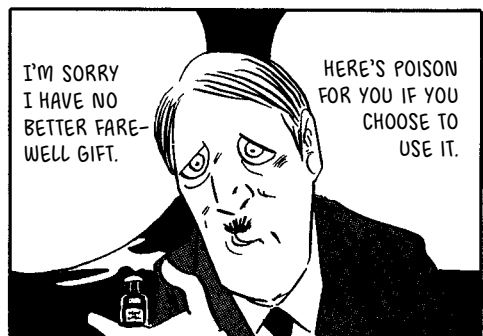
CALL IN MY
SECRETARIES.

I TESTED THE
POISON ON MY
DOG, BLONDI.



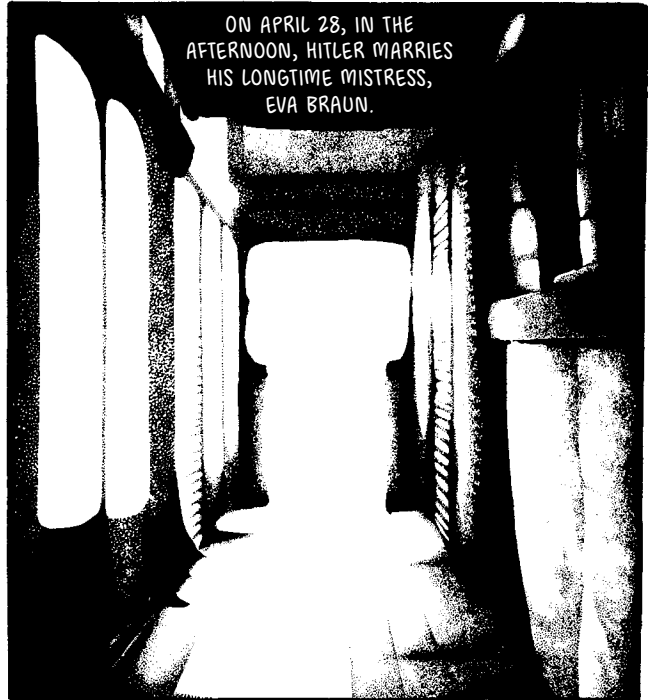
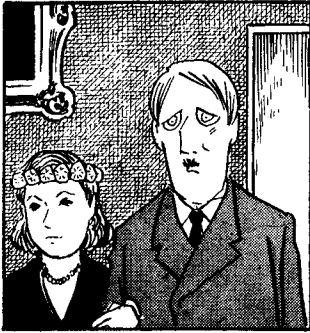
PLEASE GATHER
IN THE MAIN
DINING ROOM.
THE FÜHRER HAS
SOME PARTING
WORDS.

APRIL 30,
11 A.M.

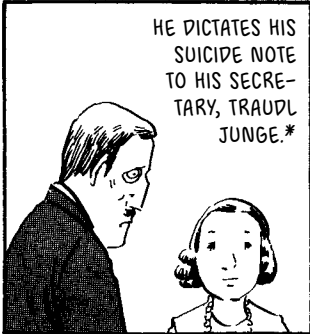


I'M SORRY
I HAVE NO
BETTER FARE-
WELL GIFT.

HERE'S POISON
FOR YOU IF YOU
CHOOSE TO
USE IT.



ON APRIL 28, IN THE AFTERNOON, HITLER MARRIES HIS LONGTIME MISTRESS, EVA BRAUN.



HE DICTATES HIS SUICIDE NOTE TO HIS SECRETARY, TRAUDL JUNGE.*

MY POLITICAL TESTAMENT:

THIS WAR, IN SPITE OF ALL SETBACKS, WILL GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS THE MOST GLORIOUS AND VALIANT DEMONSTRATION OF A NATION'S PURPOSE...I CANNOT FORSAKE BERLIN, WHICH IS THE CAPITAL OF THIS EMPIRE. I HAVE DECIDED TO REMAIN...POSTERITY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO LAY THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE OUTBREAK OF FUTURE WARS ON ME...

MY PRIVATE TESTAMENT:

BEFORE THE CLOSING OF MY EARTHLY CAREER, I HAVE DECIDED TO TAKE AS MY WIFE THAT GIRL WHO, AFTER MANY YEARS OF FAITHFUL FRIENDSHIP, ENTERED THIS BESIEGED TOWN OF HER OWN FREE WILL TO SHARE HER DESTINY WITH ME. MY ART, WHICH I BOUGHT OVER THE YEARS, I LEAVE FOR A GALLERY IN MY HOMETOWN OF LINZ. ANY OTHER VALUABLES CAN BE CLAIMED BY MY CLOSE RELATIVES.

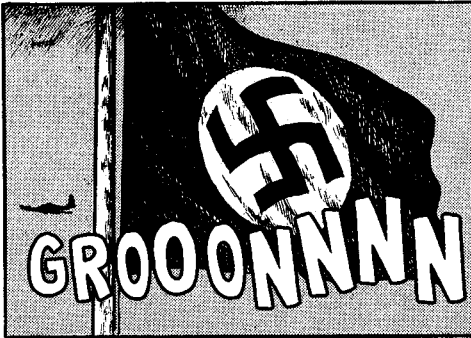
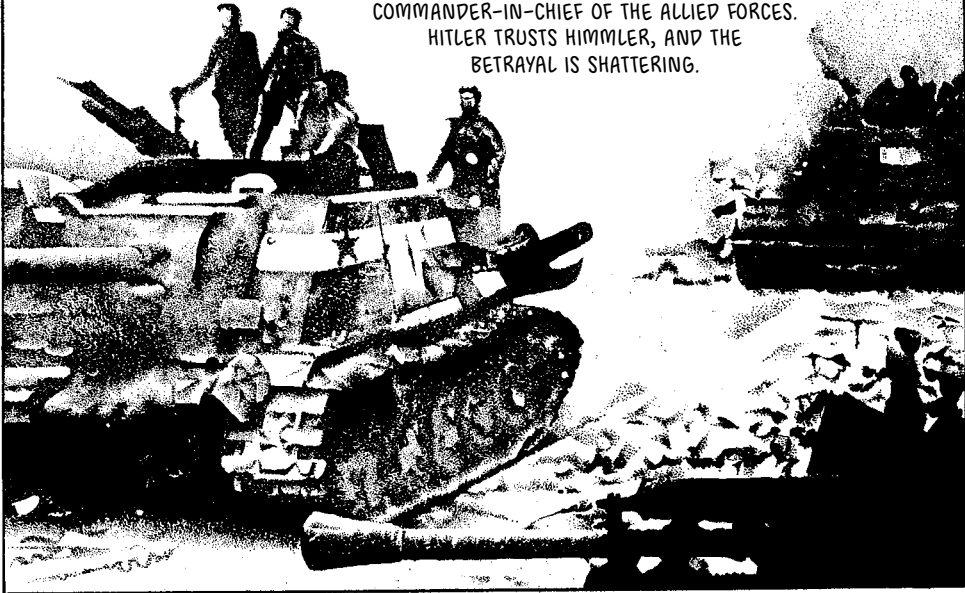


MUSSOLINI WAS EXECUTED ALONG WITH HIS MISTRESS, CLARA PETACCI!...*

AROUND NOON, HE SWITCHES ON THE RADIO...

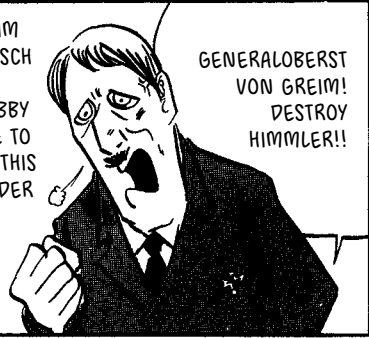
IN ORDER TO ESCAPE THE DISGRACE OF DEPOSITION, OUR WISH IS TO BE BURNT WHERE I HAVE CARRIED OUT THE GREATEST PART OF MY DAILY WORK, IN THE COURSE OF TWELVE YEARS' SERVICE TO MY PEOPLE.
-ADOLF HITLER

ON APRIL 28, 1945, A SOVIET COMPANY NEARS
CENTRAL BERLIN. HITLER HEARS THAT HIMMLER
ATTEMPTED A SEPARATE SURRENDER TO THE
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ALLIED FORCES.
HITLER TRUSTS HIMMLER, AND THE
BETRAYAL IS SHATTERING.

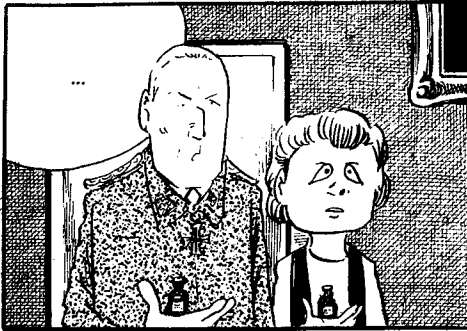


VON GREIM
AND REITSCH
TAKE OFF
IN A SHABBY
AIRPLANE TO
ATTEMPT THIS
FINAL ORDER

GENERALOBERST
VON GREIM!
DESTROY
HIMMLER!!

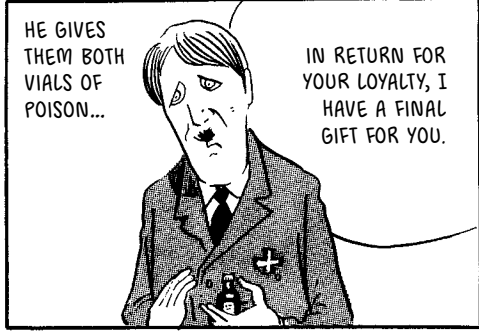


BELOW THEM,
BERLIN IS
AN OCEAN
OF FIRE.



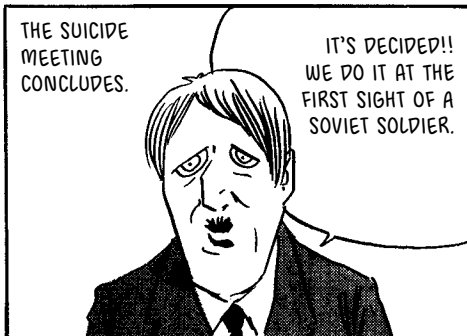
HE GIVES
THEM BOTH
VIALS OF
POISON...

IN RETURN FOR
YOUR LOYALTY, I
HAVE A FINAL
GIFT FOR YOU.



ON APRIL 27, SOVIET
FORCES CONCENTRATE
BOMBARDMENT ON
THE FÜHRERBUNKER.
THOSE IN THE BUNKER
HOLD A MEETING ON
THE BEST WAY TO
COMMIT SUICIDE.

DON DON DON



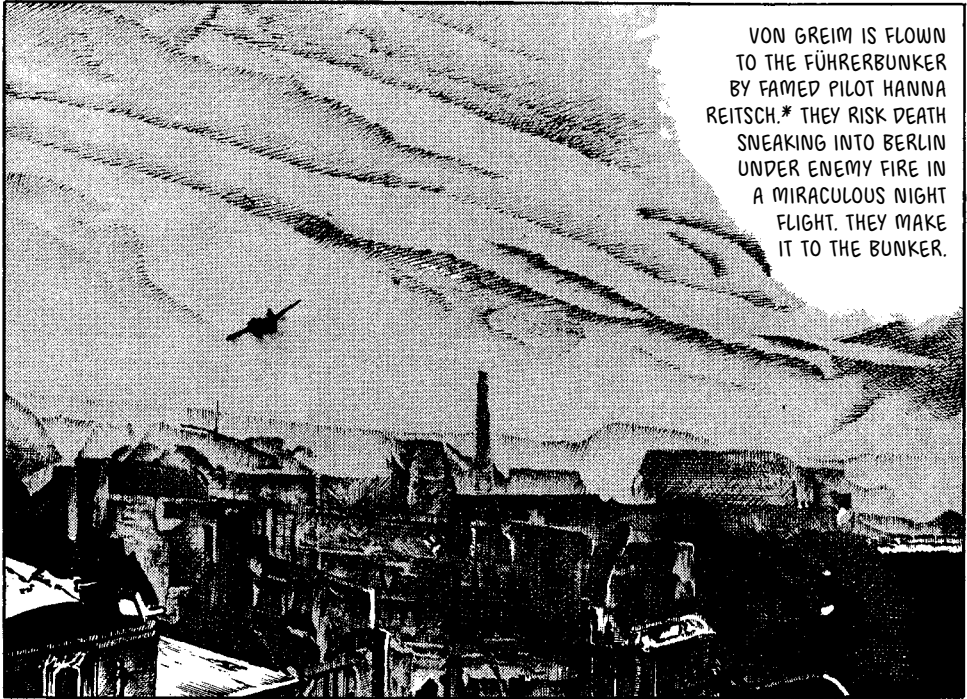
THE SUICIDE
MEETING
CONCLUDES.

IT'S DECIDED!!
WE DO IT AT THE
FIRST SIGHT OF A
SOVIET SOLDIER.



MIGHT BE
TOO LATE.

SHOULD WE
WAIT UNTIL THE
SOVIETS ARE
HERE?



VON GREIM IS FLOWN TO THE FÜHRERBUNKER BY FAMED PILOT HANNA REITSCH.* THEY RISK DEATH SNEAKING INTO BERLIN UNDER ENEMY FIRE IN A MIRACULOUS NIGHT FLIGHT. THEY MAKE IT TO THE BUNKER.

YOU HAVE THE GERMAN SPIRIT. SHOW THEM OUR COURAGE REMAINS.

WHAT? ME, COMMANDER IN CHIEF!?

VON GREIM, YOU ARE TO TAKE IMMEDIATE COMMAND OF THE LUFTWAFFE.

I'M SORRY, HANNA, BUT ALL I CAN DO IS DIE WITH HONOR.

LIVE FOR ALL OF US.

MEIN FÜHRER, HOW CAN GERMANY SURVIVE WITHOUT YOU?

I'LL DIE HERE.