



Studying the Holocaust

RESISTANCE, RESCUE AND SURVIVAL

2. Rise of Hitler and the Nazi Party

Vocabulary (from article)

putsch — violent overthrow

Landsberg Fortress — prison located outside Munich where Hitler served only nine months of a five-year sentence

Weimer Republic — Germany's first democratic government from 1919 – 1933

Reichstag — German parliament whose main duty was to pass laws

SA (Stormtroopers; Sturmabteilung) — military arm of the Nazi party; kept order at meetings, beat up opponents, used to intimidate, marched at Nazi rallies

Enabling Act — law passed in 1933 giving Hitler dictatorial powers for four years

Was Hitler Jewish?

Hitler was not Jewish. Nor was he part Jewish. There are many myths about Hitler, and this one is probably heard the most often.

Hitler made efforts to hide his ancestry and some believed that this was because he had some Jewish relatives. Historians have shown that Hitler did not have Jewish ancestors. They believe that Hitler was trying to hide his family's history of depression and retardation.

For a more complete explanation, visit: mchekc.org/tenmisconceptions.htm

Internet Resources

- ushmm.org
- yadvashem.org
- motlc.wiesenthal.com/pages/
- holocaustchronicle.org
- geocities.com/onemansmind/hr/nazi/ Weimar01.html

Additional Resources

- Dwork, Deborah, Editor. "Voices & View: A History of the Holocaust." The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous. New York, NY 2000
- Freeman, Charles. "New Perspective Series: Rise of the Nazi." Steck-Vaughn Co. Austin, TX 1998
- Hogan, David, Editor. "Holocaust Chronicle."
 Publications International, Ltd. Lincolnwood, IL
 2000
- Stewart, Gail B. "World History Series: Hitler's Reich." Lucent Books. San Diego, CA 1994
- Wepman, Dennis. "World Leaders Past and Present: Hitler." Chelsea House Publishers. New York, NY 1985

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