

# Lecture 6

## Germany: The Total State at Total War

- I. **Introduction: Austria and Germany**
- II. **War as a Necessity**
  - A. Hitler's Experience with and Concepts about War
  - B. Nazi German Policies and Actions Pointing towards War
  - C. Back to the Front? Attitudes among the German Populace
- III. **Homefront and Battlefronts, 1939-1940**
  - A. September 1939: No War Fever
  - B. What Now Ribbentrop? The British and French War Declarations
  - C. Conquest of Poland and Public Opinion
    - 1. The *Wochenschau* Films
    - 2. Goebbels's Propaganda Line
    - 3. Role of the Churches: Doing God's Work
  - D. Sitzkrieg
    - 1. Keeping the Homefront Content
    - 2. Rationing, Restrictions and Shortages: Hitler as Veggie!
    - 3. Santa with a Swastika: Christmas in the Third Reich
  - E. The Western War at Home
    - A. Popular Angst: "Is Hitler Going Too Far?"
    - B. The Oster Conspiracy
    - C. Nothing Succeeds Like Success
    - D. Blasé Berlin
    - E. Peace Now? Hitler's "Great Deal"
    - F. Revenge! The Battle of Britain and Blitz in German Public Opinion
- IV. **Operation Barbarossa and the German Homefront**
  - A. The Domestic Impact of Hitler's Invasion of Russia
    - 1. RAF on the Loose in Germany
    - 2. Civil Defense: Luftschutzbund and Block Wardens
    - 3. Bombings of Lübeck, Rostock, Hamburg
    - 4. City Kinder and Frauen to the Countryside!

5. The Witten Women's Protest
- B. The German-Jewish Holocaust
  1. The Wannsee Conference
  2. Jews as Scapegoats and Sources of Loot
  3. Deportations to Death Camps
- C. Labor Shortages
  1. Conscription of Non-Military Males
  2. Abandonment of "KKK": Women in the Workforce

## V. **Fortress Germany**

- A. Gimmie Shelter
- B. "Operation Gomorrah" in Hamburg
- C. Flak Towers, Camo Nets, and a Bogus Brandenburg Gate
- D. Making Berlin "Judenrein"
  1. The *Fabrikaktion*, 27 Feb. 1943
  2. The Rosenstrasse Women's Protest
- E. The German Press in Wartime
- F. Culture as a "Spiritual Sword"
  1. Talent Transfer and Brain Drain
  2. Radio as Attitude Adjuster
  3. The Music Scene: Jazz, Strauss, Karajan, Orff and Bayreuth
  4. Babelsberg to the Front: Goebbels and the Casting Couch; *Wunschkonzert* and *Kolberg*

## VI. **Götterdämmerung**

- A. Stauffenberg's Bomb and German Public Opinion
- B. Staying on the Sinking Ship
- C. Dresden Firebombing
- D. The Fortress Overrun
- E. Exit Hitler; Enter Allies: Russians on the Reichstag!
- F. From Retribution to Reconciliation