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Analysis of  
The Personality of Adolph Hitler

With Predictions of His Future Behavior

and

Suggestions for Dealing With Him

Now and After

Germany's Surrender

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ANALYSIS OF THE PERSONALITY OF ADOLF HITLER

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## FOREWORD

### Aim

The aim of this memorandum is (1) to present an analysis of Adolf Hitler's personality with an hypothetical formulation of the manner of its development; (2) on the basis of this, to make a few predictions as to his conduct when confronted by the mounting successes of the Allies; and (3) to offer some suggestions as to how the U. S. Government might now influence his mental condition and behavior (assuming it sees fit to do so), and might deal with him, if taken into custody, after Germany's surrender.

The proper interpretation of Hitler's personality is important as a step in understanding the psychology of the typical Nazi, and - since the typical Nazi exhibits a strain that has, for a long time, been prevalent among Germans - as a step in understanding the psychology of the German people. Hitler's unprecedented appeal, the elevation of this man to the status of a demi-god, can be explained only on the hypothesis that he and his ideology have almost exactly met the needs, longings, and sentiments of the majority of Germans.

The attainment of a clear impression of the psychology of the German people is essential if, after surrender, they are to be converted into a peace-loving nation that is willing to take its proper place in a world society.

Sources of Information for this Analysis: -

As is well known, there are no thoroughly reliable sources of information about Hitler's early life and what is known about him since 1918 is in many respects insufficient or contradictory.

This analysis has been based, for the most part, on the following material:

1. Data supplied by the Office of Strategic services
2. Hitler's MEIN KAMPF, New York, Reynal & Hitchcock, 1939
3. Hitler's MY NEW ORDER, New York, Reynal & Hitchcock, 1941
4. Heiden, K., HITLER, A BIOGRAPHY, London, 1936
5. Rauschnig, H., VOICE OF DESTRUCTION, New York
6. Baynes, H. G., GERMANY POSSESSED, London, 1941

It is generally agreed that MEIN KAMPF is not to be relied on as a factual document, but as the translators say in the introduction to the American edition, this work "is probably the best written evidence of the character, the mind, and the spirit of Adolf Hitler." An analysis of the metaphors used in

MEIN KAMPF has proved rewarding in the attempt to discover the underlying forces of his personality. MY NEW ORDER, edited by Roussy de Sales, has also been utilized extensively.

A paper published by W.H.D. Vernon, HITLER THE MAN - NOTES FOR A CASE HISTORY (Jour. of Abn. & Soc. Psychol., 1942, 37, 295-308), was written under my general supervision and contains most of the ideas of Professor G. W. Allport and myself on this topic so far as they were crystallized in the fall of 1941. This article by Vernon is included in toto as an introduction, thereby relieving me of the necessity of restating (in the detailed analysis that follows) all the commonly known facts.

## CONTENTS OF THIS MEMORANDUM

- Section 1. Summary of the Entire Memorandum.
- Section 2. HITLER THE MAN - NOTES FOR A CASE HISTORY by W. H. D. Vernon (the best available short outline of Hitler's personality).
- Section 3. (Summary, Part A) Detailed Analysis of Hitler's Personality (written especially for psychologists, psychiatrists).
- Section 4. (Summary, Part B) Predictions of Hitler's Behavior in the Coming Future.
- Section 5. (Summary, Part C) Suggestions for the Treatment of Hitler, Now and After Germany's Surrender.
- Section 6. (Summary, Part D) Suggestions for the Treatment of Germany.