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Command and Leadership Series

Adolf Hitler

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Adolf Hitler (1889 - 1945)

Introduction

No leader of the 20th Century has received more international attention than Adolf Hitler, Chancellor, founder of the Nazi Party and dictator of Germany from 1933-45. An ordinary soldier in the First World War, Hitler's rise to power in the 1930s was as dramatic as it was rapid. From small-scale, obscure beginnings his party developed under his ruthless leadership and swept all other political opponents away, often using violent methods.

His popularity has much to do with the state of Germany after the Armistice agreement, which left the country impoverished and weak. However, Hitler was a charismatic leader and a powerful orator who could whip up enthusiasm and energy in his dramatic, often theatrical speeches.

Hitler was not a brilliant military leader and his strategy in attacking Russia in 1941 while holding Britain in check was seen by many of his own generals as a serious mistake. Unable to tolerate any form of dissension among his ranks, his direction of the war became more tyrannical and less sound as the war progressed. After the invasion of Normandy the end was apparent to many in Germany but Hitler held on to his vision almost to the last before finally committing suicide in his bunker in Berlin in May 1945.

This bibliography has been designed to provide a guide as to where to find information on Hitler. Please note that the list of references below is a selection of the more relevant titles and information on the subject. The list is not intended to be exhaustive or definitive but is an introductory guide to some of the resources available.

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<http://www.secondworldwar.co.uk/ahitler.html>

The Time 100 site for Hitler
<http://www.time.com/time/time100/leaders/profile/hitler.html>

Any Queries

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