

# HITLER DEPLOYS THE PATRIOT PASTORS

Terry Sullivan c. 2010

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**There are three distinct questions about the complicity of Catholics with Hitler which are often confused: Did they resist his attack upon the Church. Yes. Did they resist his wars ? No, they did the opposite. Did they resist his attack upon the Jews ? Not half enough. from page 11**

## HITLER DEPLOYS THE PATRIOT PASTORS

Why did 60 million people get killed in the process of ridding the world of one vegetarian, one homeless tramp who had mastered the art of delivering rousing patriotic speeches and organizing flag waving rallies ? How did one man manage to kill 20 million people ? Why did those who opposed him have to kill another 40 million to finally bring him down ? That is supposedly what happened. What really happened ?

Adolph Hitler is given the blame for the 60 million who were killed in World War II. But he personally killed none of them. Had he been the Meanest Man in the World, how could he have killed so many ? His arm would have fallen off. All the killing blamed upon him was done by the ordinary people of Germany and Austria and Italy. He made them do it, supposedly. One man made millions embark upon a vast killing spree. He talked on the phone, dictated memos to his secretaries, presided over meetings and the result was 60 million killed. When he began making speeches, when the flags started waving, when the people began cheering, the wave of murder began. And could only be stopped by an even larger counter wave of murder.

Was there actually any such person as Adolph Hitler ? Was he not perhaps a manikin, hooked up to a tape player loaded with patriotic speeches, which was brought out on ceremonial occasions ? If he did not exist, would he not have had to be invented--some Mister Evil upon whom the vast irruption of hatred and mass murder could be blamed ? Because **THE PEOPLE** are good, aren't they ? We know that. We know that the American people are good. We know that the German people are good. So how can we explain the mass killing **THE PEOPLE** did ? Mister Evil must be to blame.

Can it be that **THE PEOPLE** themselves are **EVIL** ? That Satan gets hold of them when they flock to that national cult and begin waving those blood red flags ? Can it be that their weakness and cowardice create Mister Evil, rather than Mister Evil creating them ? On the historical record, there is always some such person who presides over the carnage. When he is wanted, he shows up. He is put up on center stage for everyone to love or hate. But the killing is done by the average person. It was the average German and the average Russian and the average American who killed, because he had received the order to do it, not from Mister Evil, but from his Captain or Sergeant. That is the problem with letting yourself be average.

### Going Along with the Patriotic Crowd

These men did not kill because they were blood-thirsty, they killed because they were afraid to refuse. They killed because they were full of fear, because they felt safe when they stayed with the crowd, when they followed orders, when they held on to the Great Power of the thing they all belonged to. It wasn't their courage which led to the killing, it was their lack of courage. They did not have the courage to say NO

to murder and suicide. And their fear created a position for that Man at the Top who would tell them what to do, who would take away from them the burden of having to act on their own, contrary to the crowd. They did horrible things and their excuse was the same as Adolph Eichmann's: *I'M NOT TO BLAME, I WAS ONLY FOLLOWING ORDERS, I WAS ONLY GOING ALONG WITH EVERYONE ELSE.* And it is in a way a valid excuse. They didn't follow Hitler's orders. They never received any. They never met him. Like everyone else, they obeyed the orders of the drill Sergeant.

They did not recognize that they thereby surrendered to the Will of Satan. Or that the initial surrender to the will of the evil one was their real crime for which they must answer. Adolph Hitler has the same excuse: I was only following orders. I was only doing what the crowd wanted me to do, what they applauded me for doing. And he too must answer for surrendering to the will of the evil one which was in that crowd. Which was in all of them. What was in them was the lack of a counter will. A lack of the Courage which was necessary to resist. Can you blame sheep for running over the cliff with the rest of the sheep ? But you can blame a man for agreeing to be a sheep. But they want to blame the Man at the Top, not themselves. It was his fault for ordering them to go over the cliff. What else could they do then except obey ? Yes, but why join the flock in the first place ?

The Patriot Church meets Mr. Evil and greets him with open arms !

Millions of murders are attributed to Adolph Hitler and Joe Stalin. But neither one personally committed any of those murders. Rather, they gave orders which could only be carried out because the flag-waving Christians of Germany and Russia followed those orders. The orders were resisted by a handful of people, a few real Christians among them, and carried out by all the rest, conformist patriotic Christians, who committed murder because someone told them to. They all committed murder because *THEY WERE PATRIOTS.* It was patriotism which mandated that they follow the orders of Mr. Evil. Patriotism always leads us to that same place: obedience to the god of this world, that is, obedience to Satan. Mr. Evil is only his puppet. And so is Mr. Good when he calls upon us to kill for the empire.

The question about World War II is not how the Evil Spirit got into one man but rather how it got into millions of men and women. The women cheered him the most. No doubt they love him still, whether they admit it or not, as people still love and admire Joe Stalin or Napoleon Bonaparte. All the great men whose greatness is measured by how many deaths they presided over. When he was stranded in Lebanon and short on supplies the great Napoleon ordered the cold-blooded execution of 40,000 prisoners. That is the kind of thing which made him *GREAT.* That is how you define *GREAT* in human history. That is what made Alexander the *GREAT* so great. That is why America is the *GREATEST* Country in the World. *GREAT* and *GOOD* are two different things. Of course it was his soldiers who carried out the order to kill all the prisoners. Can you blame Napoleon for it ? It was the kind of decision he was expected to make.

## destroying the evil one

The hatred unleashed by war is a scatter gun approach to smiting the evil one--like Fearless Fosdick, shooting a dozen bystanders while missing the criminal he is after. They incinerate a whole city with all its children and miss the man at the top. *Take that Adolph !* we say, when we incinerate the city of Dresden. *Death to Tyrants !* we exclaim, as the babies and the old folks of burning cities go up in smoke, as the mothers and grandmothers are buried alive in the rubble with no one to rescue them. *There's one in your eye ! Mr. Hitler !* we shout, as we obliterate the neighborhoods of Hamburg, as we destroy the homes and schools and stores and hospitals and churches. Bad aim is characteristic of violence. It is always the wrong people who get killed in war. The fire storm created by allied bombing in February 1945 killed all the people in the city of Dresden--children, hospital patients, old folks. It didn't singe one hair on Adolph Hitler's mustache. What evil madness is it that brings us to kill thousands of people, supposedly to get one bad man ? The victims included thousands of Catholic peasants from Silesia, in what is now Poland, who had fled to the area of Dresden to escape the war. They were some of those that Stalin had set out to exterminate because they were deeply hostile to Communism. They had escaped the wrath of Stalin but America finished the job for him.

The myth about war is that we fight against the Evil One. But Mr. Evil always gets away. Hitler just changed his name to Stalin and Mao Tse Tung and Pol Pot and kept right on. However many men you kill, you never kill the Evil One who is their master. He reappears without delay in another group of men. He emerges unscathed from the wreckage and joins the winning side with no hard feelings. Hitler is dead but Stalin rules the territory he conquered--thanks to American arms. American soldiers killed and died so that Stalin rather than Hitler might be the Master of Europe. That is how effective war is in destroying the Evil One.

The enemy isn't the evil people nor the evil *system*. The enemy is an evil spirit who shows up on both sides of the fence. Because the enemy is a spirit, we must use spiritual weapons. You cannot kill a spirit with carnal weapons. When we pick up the weapons of the enemy, a predictable thing happens: more and more, the spirit in us mirrors the spirit of our enemies. It is only by comparison with the worst things which Hitler did, that America can be made to appear better. We rounded up the Japanese residents of America and put them in concentration camps but at least we didn't kill them. But by the time the war was over, by the time those atomic bombs were dropped, any pretended moral difference had disappeared, had been obliterated in the mass murder of all those people. They killed millions, then we killed millions. That is the whole story. The rest is just propaganda *spin*.

## one real hero

There was at least one real hero in World War II, one who really did fight for God, unlike all the pretenders. The fundamental moral question of World War II was this: do you want to kill and die for Adolph Hitler and the Nazis or do you want to kill and die for Joe Stalin and the Communists? *Which side are you on, boy?* One of the few who gave the right answer to that question was Franz Jaggerstatter, who was executed in 1943 for his persistent refusal to put on the uniform of the German army. The right answer was **NEITHER**! I will kill and die for neither one nor the other. I will die for My Lord instead if that is my only other choice. And so he did. He was a true patriot who died for his true country, the Kingdom of God. He refused to kill for the devouring empire--for any of them.

Before America got into the war, Senator Harry Truman suggested that America remain neutral as between Hitler's Germany and Stalin's Russia but give what assistance it could to whichever side seemed to be losing. For the obvious reason that a victory for Stalin was as horrible a prospect as a victory for Hitler. In fact, if you had to choose between the two, Adolph Hitler was the obvious choice for **GOOD GUY**. He had not yet begun the systematic killing of the Jews when the war started. The Bolsheviks had already killed 17 million of their own citizens by the time Hitler came to power in 1933. The battle against the Communists was Hitler's justification. Was he not defending Western Civilization against the Communist Terror? Nazi hostility to the Jews had some patriotic justification because thousands of apostate Jews belonged to the Communist parties of Germany and Russia. They were the violent rivals of the Nazis in Germany. They were an important part of the Bolshevik killing machine. They went along with Stalin's genocide of the Ukrainians and with his persecution of religious Jews and Christians in Russia. In fact, the name of *Stalin*, like the name of *Hitler*, is only a label for the crimes of many men and women who no longer want the credit for their deeds. If America could ignore the blood-stained shirt of Joe Stalin in choosing a partner for the devil's dance, could she not just as easily have tolerated the tacky outfit that Adolph Hitler was wearing? If his claim to be the champion of Western Civilization and Christendom seems a little dubious, how much doubt should there have been about Joe Stalin and the Bolsheviks standing for Liberty etc.? But they did. Or, if their claim seems to be a little bogus, then America's claim is more than a little bogus.

## The Champion of Civilization

Was Hitler not the Champion of Western *CIVILIZATION* against *Mr. Evil* ? Just before Hitler came to power in 1933, Stalin starved 10 million Ukrainians--a third of the population ! --in the winter of 1932-1933 because they resisted collectivization. [ see Robert Conquest *Harvest of Sorrow* ] But the Ukrainians did not have much of a lobby in America and the Communist Party did. They had substantial influence in the Roosevelt Administration and in the New York based media as well as in the movie industry. The American Communists were pacifists until Hitler invaded Russia, and then they were flag waving **SUPER PATRIOTS** by the next morning. They did everything they could to push America into the war on Joe Stalin's side. Which is what happened. So America entered a holy war in partnership with Joe Stalin, a *STRUGGLE BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL*, like our current war. Like all our wars. No doubt, America would have gotten into the war anyway. Empires cannot stay out of big wars any more than a professional poker player can stay out of a high stakes poker game. But it is the fact that America tolerated the occupation of France and the defeat of the British forces in Europe. And only joined the European war after Russia was attacked.

## Varieties of Fanatics

Was Jaggerstatter a fanatic ? There are distinctions to be made between fanatics. The suicide bomber kills himself and others for what he believes. Soldiers kill but avoid dying if they can. The average person avoids doing either, but he goes along with the killing and dying while he waves his flag from a safe distance. He watches the war on TV. Jaggerstatter was a true Christian *MARTYR*, that is, a Christian *WITNESS* who refused to join the killing and who died only because his *WITNESS* led him there. He bore witness to the truth and illustrated the truth of what he believed by his willingness to die for it rather than give it up. But he did not kill himself nor did he kill anyone else.

Suppose that Jaggerstatter had consented to put on the uniform of the German army like the other so-called *CHRISTIAN* young men of Austria and Germany. Would that have been a sensible choice ? He almost certainly would have been killed anyway. He would have been among those millions killed in battle, or he would have perished from cold, hunger and sickness in one of those terrible prison camps. But before he died he would have had to do his best to kill other soldiers, Russian or British or French or American. And he would have been in an army which regularly killed civilians, Jews especially, or which rounded them up to be shipped to the death camps. He would have been part of an army that routinely raped women and he would have been powerless to prevent it. He did die, but he died a real hero. All the rest, you have to lie about them to present them as heroes. They were patriots and soldiers but they were also victims and chumps at best if they avoided becoming villains and criminals--which was their job. They were sham heroes who kept still when patriot lies were told about them. You only have to tell the truth about Franz Jaggerstatter. ( *In Solitary Witness* by Gordon Zahn describes his heroic **witness**.)

## Courage Contra the Crowd

Considering his real alternatives, he was one of the few sane and sensible young men of his time. And what was his secret? That he refused to go along with the crowd. That he found the Courage to do the obvious right thing. While his contemporaries and countrymen were blinded by patriotism and coerced by cowardly conformity to participate in murder and to march off the cliff on command. The Spirit enabled him to see the obvious right and wrong of the situation. It allowed him to see that **patriotism is demonism**. It is servile obedience to *the god of this world*.

The Holy Spirit of Courage which Franz Jaggerstatter found is the only real antidote to that slavish, servile and sheepish conformity which causes men to go along with Adolph Hitler. The disheartening thing about most people is how ready they are to be victims and to make victims of others. Hannah Arendt and Bruno Bettelheim wrote about how the Jews of Europe cooperated in their own extermination. When one of them tried to overpower a guard on the train to the death camp, the others helped the guard subdue him. Jewish leaders helped the Germans organize the train loads being sent to the so-called *work camps*. Jewish inmates of Treblinka helped the prison guards organize the killing of other Jews in order to briefly prolong their own lives. [ New Republic July 1st 1967 ] Conquered Indians helped the army track down their relatives. The slaves carried word to their masters about the rebels among themselves. Black men took care of the coats of the lynch mob while rebellious black men were hung from trees. They refused to be seen with those who first challenged segregation. The Russian dissident Andrei Amalrik describes how eager his neighbors were to keep tabs on him for the police.

There is a Spirit of Courage which anyone can find, but which few men and women ever seem to find. It is the only real antidote to evil. Marching in lockstep with the other cowardly conformists is always the road to evil. It does not go any where else, contra all the patriot lies. Jaggerstatter displayed the only kind of military discipline that is worthy of the name. He didn't have somebody kicking him in the butt and shouting obscenities at him to make him do something stupid or mean. He was his own drill Sergeant, and he followed the Captain's orders to the letter, marching himself forward for a hand to hand combat with the Evil one. And he won it. And he showed all of us how a Christian fights.



## The Ancient Cult

The movie lie is that the soldier stands out from the group as an individual hero. The Patriot carries the flag and performs heroic deeds. The truth is that he stands out like one sheep stands out from the bunch. Military courage is based upon turning men into identical and replaceable cogs in the military machine. The hero of the battle is the general who takes credit from 40 miles away. The military is the most ancient of Cults and the model for all others. Total Control and Extreme Coercion are employed to erase individuality. The *lowly maggots* are degraded and humiliated as individuals and then given a Pride in themselves as belonging to a military unit. They are systematically broken and forced into a mold which creates a Group Identity and Discipline. It is a New Identity and a New Family--an anti family. The Brainwashed Initiates will do worse than drink poisoned Kool Aid on command. They commit homicide as readily as suicide. They commit unspeakable crimes. It is the true history of war.

The Courage of the Christian martyr is entirely contrary to what is instilled into the soldier. There is a kind of humility in it also in that he has to rely entirely upon the Spirit of Courage rather than any courage of his own. But he finds his true individual self in the relationship. In consultation with the Holy Spirit, he makes his own moral judgment as to what to do. No one else has the right to tell him what to do.

There were others who did the same, perhaps as many as a hundredth of those who later claimed to have done it. In every war there have been those who bravely bore Christian witness against it. They are in the true tradition going back to Roman times of those men and women who bravely bore witness to the Truth with their very lives. Jaggerstatter's testimony must be added to that of Felicitas and Perpetua, the Roman maidens who went to their deaths bravely and cheerfully in defiance of the Evil Empire. Their testimony was once read in a Christian Church which had not lost its savor. They truly are the salt and the yeast which can leaven the whole lump. If only a few more would join them, it would make all the difference. It has happened and it will happen again.

### THE PATRIOT CHURCH

In *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*, pages 234-240, William Shirer describes how the patriot pastors of Germany were first led and then coerced to go along with Hitler while he defined Christianity for them: *Positive Christianity is National Socialism* he proclaimed, and the two did become identified, for all practical purposes, in a league to commit mass murder. Remember this: it was the Christians of Germany, not the Nazis, who carried out all of the mass murders of the Third Reich. The Nazis were in charge of it, they ordered it done, but it was the so-called **CHRISTIANS** who did the actual killing. Because they believed in *Positive Christianity*--the **Patriot Christianity** which began with Constantine.

Hitler was able to take power because he had learned to work that **PATRIOT LEVER** for all it was worth. Reverend Martin Niemoeller welcomed the coming to power of the *National Socialists* in 1933. The Nazi press praised his autobiography, *From U-Boat to Pulpit*. He had been a submarine commander in World War I and had then become a prominent preacher. He was a patriot, a preacher and an enthusiastic supporter of **NATIONAL SOCIALISM**, like most of the clergy. But, when he resisted the new **National Reich Church**, he was arrested, in July 1937, and confined to a concentration camp until the end of the war. He was lucky to survive. Despite his incarceration he remained a **PATRIOT**. When the war broke out in 1941, he offered to resume his old job as a submarine commander.

Shirer argues that the historical influence of Martin Luther in Germany pushed the Protestant clergy in the direction of submission to Hitler: "The great founder of Protestantism was both a passionate anti-Semite and a ferocious believer in absolute obedience to political authority. . . . In no country with the exception of Czarist Russia did the clergy become by tradition so completely servile to the political authority of the State. Its members, with few exceptions, stood solidly behind the King, the Junkers and the Army." (236) Luther, a follower of Augustine, further developed the Imperial Church theology, pioneered by Augustine, in which submission to the ruler and patriotic enthusiasm for the wars of the State replaced Christian Witness against War. [ see *THE CHURCH OF THE EMPIRE, The Buried Issue of Christian Pacifism* in Chapter IX.]

#### Luther's Hatred of the Jews

Luther's rabid hatred of the Jews is fully presented in his treatise *On the Jews and their Lies*, written in 1543: **set fire to their synagogues or schools . . . I advise that their houses also be razed and destroyed . . . eject them forever from the country.** ( Luther's Works, volume 47, p. 268-272 ) Hitler admired Luther and said of him: *He saw the Jew as we are only beginning to see him today.* Luther's treatise inspired the Nazi program. They scheduled **Kristallnacht**, the *Night of Broken Glass*, on November 9th 1938, the eve of Martin Luther's birthday. Hundreds of Jews were killed, 30,000 were arrested, 176 synagogues and 7500 Jewish owned businesses were destroyed.

It is remarkable and revealing that Russia, which had more Christian Churches than any nation in Europe, so readily allowed the atheist Communists to take over, shrugging off as it were 1000 years of Christianity, 1000 years of **LET'S PRETEND TO BE CHRISTIANS** Christianity. Aside from the fervent patriotism of the Imperial Russian Orthodox Church, which came from the tradition of the Imperial Church of the eastern Roman Empire, the primary reason was that during World War I the Czarist government had already assumed that **TOTALITARIAN CONFIGURATION** which every nation assumes in time of war. The Communists had only to get into the driver's seat of a machine that was already built. The same thing happened in Germany where the National Socialists grabbed the controls of a juggernaut built by patriotism.

## SUR render to Kaiser

Germany, where most of the population called themselves "Christians," allowed a neo-pagan *NATIONAL* patriot party to come to power which fully intended to force all traditional Churches into the *National Reich Church*. It shows how little spiritual and moral strength there is in Patriot Christianity--in Secular Christianity--how readily it submits to the evil will of Satan's representative, how readily it carries out that evil will when it is commanded to do unspeakable things under the sign of the flag. Shirer quotes what Hitler once said to an aide about the Protestant pastors: *You can do anything you want with them. They will submit. . . . they are insignificant little people, submissive as dogs, and they sweat with embarrassment when you talk to them.* (238) They taught him that he could get away with anything, because they groveled to the Patriotic Power he represented, like their spiritual grandfathers who SUR-rendered to *Kaiser* and *Caesar*, who crawled to kiss the emperor's foot. He proved the truth of his judgment of them. **HIS STRENGTH WAS BORN OF THEIR WEAKNESS.** He might just as well be describing the **patriot pastors** of America on one of their pilgrimages to the White House. Not surprisingly, those who worship the Flag also idolize the Man who holds the Power of the Flag.

On 239-240 Shirer says: "It would be misleading to give the impression that the persecution of Protestants and Catholics by the Nazi State tore the German people asunder or even greatly aroused the vast majority of them. It did not. A people who had so lightly given up their political and cultural and economic freedoms were not, except for a relative few, going to die or even risk imprisonment to preserve freedom of worship. What really aroused the Germans in the Thirties were the glittering successes of Hitler in providing jobs, creating prosperity, restoring Germany's military might, and moving from one triumph to another in his foreign policy. Not many Germans lost much sleep over the arrests of a few thousand pastors and priests. " Hitler led the way to a restoration of the pride, the power, and the prosperity of Germany. That is why the patriots went along with him.

No doubt Shirer is right in saying that *freedom of worship* had a low priority for most Germans. Since they already attended patriotic churches, they hardly noticed the difference when the church became even more patriotic. The spiritual SUR-render to Caesar, whereby the Worldly and Patriotic Church loses its independence from the state, erodes the only moral basis for a truly free society which is strong enough to resist evil. That surrender opens the way for every evil, just as it did in Nazi Germany and Communist Russia. It isn't different in America. In a fundamental moral and spiritual way it is the same. As American history amply shows, we have no resistance either to going along with mass murder. The Germans and the Russians are ahead of us in having some shame--not half enough perhaps--for what they have done in the name of Patriotism. Our complacent patriotic self-righteousness still keeps us from seeing it.

## The Catholic Cop Out

In March 1933, the Catholic Center Party went along when the Reichstag "abandoned its functions to the dictator." The official Catholic statement of support for Hitler from the German bishops appeared March 28 1933, just five days after full dictatorial powers were granted to Hitler and even before the Concordat with the Vatican was signed. Four months later, Hitler signed a Concordat with the Vatican. By 1934, the Nazis were arresting Catholic priests, nuns and lay people who resisted the Nazification of the Church. [Shirer 235] Catholic publications were suppressed. But even while they protested the confiscation of Church properties, German Catholic Bishops called upon their congregations to obey the Fuhrer and serve in his wars without question. The soldiers took the military oath to *render unconditional obedience to the FUHRER of the German nation and VOLK, Adolph Hitler*. The clergy took a civilian version of the same oath. School kids took a pledge of allegiance to *the third reich*. How could they take an oath of **UNCONDITIONAL OBEDIENCE**? How could their bishops allow them to do it? That is in fact what soldiers always do, whether it is stated explicitly or not, and it cannot be otherwise. A cog in the military machine has no right to argue with the Driver. When you agree to kill on command, why pretend that you still own your own conscience?

By March 1937 when Pope Pius XI issued his encyclical letter *With Burning Sorrow*, it was too late for anything except the resistance of Christian martyrs like Franz Jaggerstatter, who received no encouragement from the submissive and conformist patriotic Church. His heroic witness has still not been acknowledged by the Catholic Church, which was shamed by his witness and which is still shamed by the inability to acknowledge it 60 years later. How many world wars have to come and go before the Catholic Church acknowledges someone who set the highest example of Christian Witness in the most morally urgent situation of the 20th century? Do they still believe the Pope did all he could reasonably be expected to do when he signed the Concordat with Hitler and blessed Mussolini's army on its way to Ethiopia? Or that the millions of Catholics in Germany who put on the Nazi uniform or the millions of Catholics in Italy who put on the uniform of Mussolini's army thereby performed their Christian duty? The rise of *fascism* in Spain, Italy and Germany could never have happened without the whole-hearted support of the Catholics in those nations.

**later note:** on June 1st 2007 Pope Benedict XVI approved a decree that attributed martyrdom to Jaggerstatter. Better late than never, And it only took them 60 years to figure out that a Catholic who refused to fight for Hitler deserves some recognition. It is a first step, but they have a long march ahead of them--back to the Christian Pacifism of the original church. It isn't enough to declare that Jaggerstatter was right. They have also to declare that everyone else was wrong--all those millions of young Catholic men who fought for Hitler. And they have further to declare that the bishops and the popes were wrong when they taught young men that it was right for them to participate in the wars of the empire. If it takes 60 years to do that, World War III will have come and gone and most of us will have gone along with it.

Ever since the Worldly Church went along with Constantine, it has lacked the spiritual vision and the moral strength to bear witness against the empire. The real question about World War II and the Catholic Church isn't what the Pope did or didn't do. What did Catholics do ? The answer is that they obeyed Hitler and they followed Mussolini. And, because they were brainwashed from childhood, they would not have done anything else even if their pastors had finally broken their cowardly silence. And how could they ? The Worldly Church is defined by that cowardly silence.

#### Catholic Patriots

Or worse. In *German Catholics and Hitler's Wars*, published in 1962, Gordon Zahn documents the whole-hearted **PATRIOTIC** support for Hitler's wars from the Catholic Church: "the German Catholic who looked to his religious superiors for spiritual guidance and direction regarding service in Hitler's wars received virtually the same answers he would have received from the Nazi ruler himself." [Zahn 17] The very few who refused to take the oath of loyalty to Commander in Chief Adolph Hitler received no support from fellow Catholics. They were even denied the sacraments by the prison chaplain who "interpreted their action as a violation of their Christian duty." [Zahn 17-18 in respect to Father Reinisch and Brother Maurus] During the year he spent in Germany in 1956-1957, Gordon Zahn interviewed about 100 people and studied diocesan newspapers, and episcopal letters and sermons, from 1933-1945 to answer the question as to what Catholic resistance there was to Hitler's wars, and why the Catholic **JUST WAR** standard was never applied to a situation which so obviously demanded it. He eventually discovered a total of 7 Catholics, including Franz Jaggerstatter, who openly refused to cooperate with the war. All but one were executed. None received support from fellow Catholics--just the reverse. [Zahn 54]

**There are three distinct questions about the complicity of Catholics with Hitler which are often confused: Did they resist his attack upon the Church. Yes. Did they resist his wars ? No, they did the opposite. Did they resist his attack upon the Jews ? Not half enough.**

Eventually, several hundred Catholic priests were sent to concentration camps for *misuse of the pulpit* when they spoke out against the government seizing convents, or interfering with Catholic youth groups and Catholic schools. But the Catholic bishops still preached patriotic support for the war. Like Pastor Niemoeller, they still saw participation in Hitler's wars as their Christian duty, even while they resisted the effort to create a **National Reich Church**. Bishop Von Galen of Munster denounced the Nazi confiscation of Church property, but continued to support *the fight against the foreign foe*. [Zahn 86] Cardinal Faulhaber of Munich refused *on grounds of conscience* to allow the appointment of a Nazi Party member to a chair of Church Law at the University of Munich even though the School of Theology was closed as a reprisal. Meanwhile, his diocesan publications called upon Catholics to obey the *Fuhrer* and support the wars he launched. [Zahn 105] A 1960 article by Zahn in *Cross Currents--The German Catholic Press and Hitler's Wars*--describes a diocesan paper as *a captive auxiliary of the Goebbels propaganda ministry*.

The Pope's willingness to sign a Concordat with Hitler's government set the example: "Although Pius XI was later to speak of the serious misgivings he had at the time, the Vatican's haste in extending recognition to the newly established Nazi regime offers further evidence of a sometimes uncritical effort to create a Church-state relationship of mutual support leading to a virtually complete interpenetration of the religious and civil obligations of the individual. . . . The August 20, 1935 Fulda statement of the combined German hierarchy . . . reminded Hitler of the fact that Pius XI had been *the first foreign sovereign to extend to you the handclasp of trust*. Furthermore, the bishops noted, the Pope in open consistory on March 13, 1933--that is, before the Concordat negotiations were opened--had praised Hitler in the presence of representatives of other nations as the first statesman to join him in open disavowal of Bolshevism. As the bishops put it, *Millions of foreigners, Catholics and non-Catholics, found it possible to overcome through this evidence of the Pope's trust their original mistrust of your regime.*" [Zahn 211-212] Of course it made as much moral sense to go along with Hitler and the Nazis in order to oppose Stalin and the Bolsheviks as did the opposite course which America soon followed. You have to ***fight fire with fire***, don't you ? Especially when the river of the Spirit has run dry.

#### Hitler and Stalin 1939

The major excuse for the German bishops is that they were supporting a ***CRUSADE AGAINST BOLSHEVISM***. But Zahn points out that they gave whole-hearted support to the German invasion of Poland **IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION** during the two year period of the Russian-German Friendship pact in 1939-1941. The invasion and partitioning of Catholic Poland by Nazi Germany and Communist Russia did not disturb the patriotic faith of these German Catholic bishops. That is shown by the 1941 pastoral letter issued by the eight Bavarian bishops, read from the pulpit on the first Sunday in Lent--6 months before Germany abandoned the friendship treaty and invaded Russia. Zahn writes: "The date is important. Appearing as it did after the victories over Poland, France, and the neutral Low Countries (the latter campaign having been the subject of indirect Vatican criticism) and before the Nazi attack upon the Soviet Union reintroduced the *crusade against Bolshevism* aspect of the National Socialist program, this episcopal message and its appeal for unity and unstinting support of the war offer incontrovertible evidence that Bavarian Catholics would have received little encouragement from their bishops had they even considered refusing to take part in the Hitler War effort--

*We are today directing a word of exhortation to you in our fatherly love and concern, that it may inspire you to devote your full efforts to the service of the Vaterland and the precious Heimat [ home land ] in conscientious fulfillment of duty and serious awareness of your mission. We Germans constitute one great community of life and destiny; we Christians constitute a community of belief in Christ and the love of Christ. And if the commandment to love is always the greatest commandment of all, this is especially true in times of danger and need . . . In the first years of the World War we saw with joy and pride the greatness that unity brings; but at the end of that war we had to learn how disunity can destroy all that greatness again. To be united is, therefore, the great commandment of this serious hour. To be united in the love and in the service of the Vaterland is our wish, so that we may form one single community of sacrifice and effort for the protection of the Heimat. " [Zahn 60]*

*In the first years of the World War we saw with joy and pride the greatness that unity brings* say the bishops. National unity through war. **JOY AND PRIDE** in **THE GREATNESS** of Our Nation. Does that not sound familiar ? Does it not describe another Nation with which we are familiar ? Does that **GREATNESS** not blind us to every evil ?

#### Love God by Invading Poland

The faith in the Patriotic Mission and Destiny of Germany which the bishops express here--*WE GERMANS CONSTITUTE ONE GREAT COMMUNITY OF LIFE AND DESTINY*--appears over and over again in the letters and sermons of the German bishops. No line is drawn between the *COMMUNITY* we belong to as Christians and the *COMMUNITY* we belong to as Germans. There isn't even a suggestion that such a line is possible. The Church and The Nation are One. The German Empire, revived by military power, is a *COMMUNITY* just like that of the early Christians who were fed to the lions for refusing to conform to the Roman Empire. It has absorbed that *COMMUNITY* and replaced it. The September 1939 message from the bishops when the war began was intended *to encourage and exhort our Catholic soldiers to do their duty in obedience to the Fuhrer, ready for sacrifice and with the commitment of the whole being.* [Zahn 64] You must Love God with all your heart and that means unconditional obedience to **The Fuhrer** and total commitment to the war. You serve God by obeying Caesar. That is in fact the foundational doctrine of the Patriot Church.

The characteristic of all these episcopal messages is the application--the mis-application--of gospel texts to the war. *THE COMMANDMENT TO LOVE IS ALWAYS THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT OF ALL* is invoked to provide spiritual cover for the unleashing of that Great Hatred which produced Mass Murder in Poland, Belgium, Holland and France. The Great Commandment to Love means it is right to invade Poland in cooperation with the Russians. Love of Country requires you to destroy someone else's country. The Christian *COMMUNITY* and the German *COMMUNITY* are identified so closely that you show your Love for the one by dying for the other. By **killing** for the other, actually, although it is considered bad taste to dwell upon that aspect of it. Or even to mention it.

## one eyed vision

The 1943 Fulda pastoral message from the combined German hierarchy says: *We remember in prayers full of thanksgiving the dead heroes who gave their lives for their brethren and thereby demonstrated that they had the greatest love in their hearts.* [Zahn 64] So the saying of Jesus that you show the greatest love for **THE BRETHREN** of the Christian community by laying down your life for them, is translated to mean German soldiers dying in these invasions of neighboring countries. Again there is the usual, inevitable, **one-eyed vision**, characteristic of patriotic communications, whereby you can see soldiers *dying for their country* but you cannot see them **kill for their empire**. That doesn't sound so well: *Greater love than this hath no man, than that he kill dirty foreigners to advance the flag of his empire.* A naive soldier, raised on patriotic sermons and speeches, would be baffled when they handed him a rifle: ***What's this for Sarge ? ! I am ready to die for my country, but you don't expect me to shoot myself, do you ? !***

The common sense truth is that **KILLING REQUIRES HATRED**. You would never guess that from patriotic utterances which leave you with the hazy idea that soldiers are motivated by love--*I love you like a brother but it is my Christian duty to stick this bayonet in your belly, so I must reluctantly do it, With Love, G.I. Joe.* You would never comprehend why soldiers in basic training are taught to shout **Kill !** until it is drilled into them. They even shout it as grace before meals. But, in popular dewy-eyed and myopic patriotism their one desire is to die for their country, hands clasped in prayer and looking up to heaven as it were, after handing out all their candy bars to war orphans. If this is really what they are doing, why give them rifles at all ? Just send them out with prayer books ! Or just stay home and die--wearing your uniform of course--if spiritual sacrifice is all that is wanted.

Bishop Clement August von Galen of Munster also depicted the German soldiers as Christian martyrs. In his 1944 Lenten pastoral he praised *our wonderful, idealistic young men who, dying in loyal performance of duty, have offered for us all their worldly goods, all their loved ones in the Heimat, all their hopes and prospects for the future.* (As if they weren't forced into the army--executed if they refused.) Then he referred to the writings of St. Thomas Aquinas where *one learns that the death in battle of a believing Christian ranks in merit and honor alongside that of the martyr for the Faith and immediately opens the way into the everlasting blessedness for the witness of Christ.* [Zahn 94] In effect, the bishops taught their congregations that Jesus doesn't need any martyrs but Caesar does. And that it is the same thing: when you die for your *country*--your empire--you die for God. Bearing Witness to **Germany Above All** is more or less the same thing as standing up for Jesus Christ. Take up your cross and your rifle and your packet of condoms and follow the Fuhrer to glory land. You follow Jesus Christ by following Adolph Hitler.



### The *Iron Cross*

Just as with the Moslem so-called *martyr*, dying in battle (and killing in battle) is a quick ticket to paradise, no matter what you did to the captive women back in the last village. The *believing Christian* obviously means a Christian who *BELIEVES* in the restored German Empire--the neo Christian *third reich* which fights under the banner of the new *SWASTIKA CROSS* as well as the old *IRON CROSS* of Imperial Germany. What else is he fighting for? And if his dying earns eternal merit, the *killing*, which is his primary task, must earn double merit. Adolph Hitler's *swastika* cross stood for authentic Christianity as much as the old Iron Cross of Imperial Germany and as much as the Cross of Constantine, which he put on the shields of his soldiers.

They all represent the same thing: mass murder to establish the Power of The Great Empire with the help of the god of this world, the God who *blesses* the Empire. The fact that millions of Christians were willing to kill and die for this *swastika* banner, under the illusion that it stood for all things good, true and beautiful, illustrates the criminal insanity of Patriot Christianity in a great and indelible scrawl of blood. Only the truly blind can persist in failing to see it. Hitler did not begin the perversion of the Christian faith into **Military Christianity**. Rather he invoked and relied upon the Military Christianity which had characterized the German Empire for 1000 years or even 1600 years--since Constantine established it as the new fighting faith of the Roman Empire. His *swastika* cross was accepted as a patriotic symbol by German Christians who had long since learned to revere the Iron Cross.

The Military Bishop and head chaplain Franz Josef Rarkowski went even further in his enthusiasm for the crusades of Christian Germany. His church rang out a special noonday *Te Deum* to celebrate the "victory" over Poland in 1939 and he commemorated the *HOLY DEATHS* of the fallen soldiers: *Their sacrifice for Germany's honor and future lacked nothing of human greatness and glory. And this dying was not only beautiful and sublime in a human sense but towers beyond into a higher world. It is a holy death; for those who have fallen had consecrated and sanctified all their war services through their oath of allegiance and have thus entered their sacrifices in the ledgers of God which are preserved in the archives of Eternity.* [Zahn 152]

### The Sacred Oath to God and Hitler

This was the *SACRED OATH* whereby they *CONSECRATED AND SANCTIFIED* whatever they did: *I swear before God this sacred oath that I will render unconditional obedience to the FUHRER of the German nation and VOLK, Adolph Hitler, the Supreme Commander of the armed forces, and that, as a brave soldier, I will be ready at all times to stake my life in fulfillment of this oath.* As Zahn points out, Bishop Rarkowski's statements contain the most blatant patriotism. But he is the head chaplain and he is only stating explicitly the patriotic doctrine of the other bishops and of all patriotic war mongering: Since God Blesses the Empire and supports its wars, killing and dying in battle is a SACRED DUTY and makes you A MARTYR FOR THE FAITH.

The German bishops fused Christianity and Germanism together in exactly the same way that the clergy here fuse Christianity and Americanism together. Jesus Calls you to put on the army uniform and wield the bayonet, and, if you get killed, *IT IS A HOLY DEATH*, and you are enrolled with the Christian martyrs. Now that the emperor is a sort of Christian--the swastika is a sort of cross after all--the empire and the church are One, as they were in the Roman Empire, as they are in the American Empire.

In Bishop Rarkowski's February 1944 Lenten Pastoral, as the war neared its end, he exhorted the soldiers to resist temptations to give up. Like Jesus when he was tempted by Satan [Matthew 4.10 and Luke 4.8] they must say *God alone shall you serve !* [Zahn 158-159] Don't let the devil lead you away from serving in Adolph Hitler's army. He was still convinced that he and the German soldiers and their *Fuhrer* were on God's side. It never occurred to him that they were already serving Satan, *the god of this world*. He illustrates the astonishing spiritual blindness of Secular Christians, the false faith that the Empire and the Church of Jesus Christ are spiritually and morally united. So the soldiers who killed and died invading Catholic Poland are enrolled with the Christian martyrs **who refused to fight for the Roman Emperor**. So killing for the emperor is the same thing as refusing to do it.

#### rebirth of the reich

And the bishop deeply believes in the *just new world order* which is to emerge from this armed struggle, that Reich *whose glorious rebirth we have been permitted to witness*. His message of June 15th 1940 when Germany invaded France and the low countries presents the ideal of the Christian Warrior: *For more than a thousand years, German armies have harvested unparalleled fame as warriors. In the mighty language of deeds they have demonstrated that Christianity has a place for and even encourages the development of the heroic and soldierly character.* The fact that the Fuhrer is not exactly a Christian does not diminish his faith in the whole enterprise. In a 1939 message to the soldiers he invoked *the shining example of a true warrior, our Fuhrer and Supreme Commander, the first and most valiant soldier of the Greater German Reich, who is even now with you at the battlefield*. In a 1940 message he said: *Whether out on the front or at home, one could understand the Fuhrer and Supreme Commander when more than once in this past year, in thanksgiving and petition he implored God's blessings upon OUR GOOD AND JUST CAUSE.* [Zahn 153-155] You serve God by obeying the *Supreme Commander*. What does it matter if his name is Adolph Hitler ? A *Supreme Commander* must be obeyed, whatever his name.

Bishop Rarkowski's faith that his Nation was called by God to do some great thing via bombs and bullets shows up in his 1939 Christmas message: *as Germans, we have a mission which the Lord God, the Ruler of societies and peoples, has given us. No one understands these thoughts better than the German soldier.* [Zahn 157] A 1940 message says that *we intend to carry on the fight and, with confident trust in God, continue to build up the holy cathedral of our Vaterland until the final victory is won and, with it, the freedom and the future of our Volk.* [Zahn 155] Now it is America which has been given a **MISSION FROM THE RULER** [ of this world ] **FOR FREEDOM**--whatever that means. As usual, it means a lot of bombs.

## Serving God in Hitler's Army

In a 1944 Lenten pastoral, when total defeat loomed, he still defined **serve God** as **soldierly service**: *One must be clear about what this phrase means: to serve God. It would be completely wrong to interpret it as a turning away from the world. In order to serve God and to be able to do everything for God, there is certainly no need to flee from the world. Service to God is performed there, wherever one stands, wherever one has his job to do. It is a matter of seeing God's will and a God-given task in whatever burden is placed upon one and the mastering of that task. In that all of us today, on the battlefield and in the Heimat, do our very best in this hour of critical need in the service of our Volk; that each of us serving his Vaterland dedicates his heart, his thoughts, his every power to the service of his Volk; that the soldier loyally and bravely follows the path set before him--therein lies the realization of the principle "I wish to serve God."* [Zahn 145-146] Bishop Rarkowski here explains clearly enough the fundamental faith of the clergy of the Worldly Church: The Church and the World have merged. There is no moral conflict between Serving God and Sur-rendering to Caesar. Jesus and Constantine are partners, as they have been since 312 A.D. (see ***The Church of the Empire***, Chapter IV, *Constantine's Miracle* ) Ever since then, Christian Knights have been Saving Europe and ~~ravishing~~ rescuing the Women of Europe. You serve god by serving Satan in the Demon's army.

Bishop Rarkowski, was the son of a Prussian officer. He once showed up for a bishop's funeral wearing a military uniform, instead of his episcopal robes. Zahn says his view was that "the German Catholic soldier's obligations to serve God and the Third Reich were coextensive if not actually interchangeable." [Zahn 144-146] Like our own Cardinal Spellman, he completely identified with the military and with the wars of the nation. But the other bishops, even those noted for their resistance to the Nazi attempts to take control of Catholic Church institutions, put out the same patriotic message in more moderate language.

*obedience to the new authorities* = Be Subject to Adolph

When Germany recovered the *Sudetenland* in 1938, without a war, but using the threat of military force, Cardinal Bertram's greeting to the 30,000 Sudeten Germans who were once again included in his Breslau diocese showed what it meant: *How could the Catholic Church, which is a Volk church in the most exalted sense, silently ignore a development so rich in meaning for all in the bosom of the Volk? . . . There is no need to urge you to give respect and obedience to the new authorities of the German state. You all know the words of the apostle: let every man be subject to the powers placed over him.* [Zahn 69] It shows how Augustine's Romans 13 doctrine can be used to require submission to the ruler, even when the ruler is Adolph Hitler. (see ***Church of the Empire*** Chapter XI *Augustine and the Manufacture of Scripture*.) What in the world is a *Volk church*? Obviously it is The Church of The People--All the People! It is just what Constantine created when he herded the entire pagan populace of the Empire into his new Imperial Church. [ see ***The Church of the Empire***, Chapter XIII, *Everybody's Church*. ]

When Germany recovered Danzig and the Polish Corridor in 1939 on the road to the restoration of the **Greater Reich**, Bishop Splett of Danzig gave a message called *Of the Christian Contribution to Germany's Greatness* in which he said: *We are today experiencing how our Volk is once again trying to find its way back to all the values that once permitted it to become so great and powerful that as the Holy [Roman] Empire it offered protection and order, not only for Germans but for the whole of Western civilization. That such a turning back and reinvigoration of the old values that rests upon it cannot be accomplished without disturbances, struggles, and sorrows is, of course, clear enough to us; but over all these there stands nevertheless the happy faith and certain hope that our Volk will be granted a time of new greatness and bloom . . . .* [Zahn 70] Since the Empire is Holy, it naturally follows that you have a Sacred Duty to Defend it--that is, to Expand it to its God given boundaries.

#### THE IMPERIAL CHRISTIAN FAITH

He and the other German bishops believed in the restoration of the old German Empire. It explains why they continued to support the *Kaiser* who had brought it about. The bishop displays that Imperial Christian Faith which has been around since Constantine. For 1600 years the bishops of the Church of the Empire had told their congregations to go to war when *CAESAR* or *KAISER* or the *CZAR* decreed it. So it didn't occur to them to follow a different course when the **REICH FUHRER** called upon them for the usual subservience. Why did they so completely identify with Adolph Hitler's new German Empire ? Because they and their predecessors had identified with the Empire for 1600 years. It was an old habit.

The passionate patriotism of Adolph Hitler--his mad vision of Destiny and Empire--was entirely popular with the Germans. How else did he achieve such power and popularity except by voicing what they already believed ? 90 per cent of what he believed was exactly what they believed, and he halfway concealed the rest. History hates him mainly because he was a Big Loser. It is convenient to put all the blame upon him for what millions of others did. When the team loses, you fire the manager or the coach because you can't fire the whole team. If he had won the war and died in bed like Joe Stalin, History would forgive him his sins.

#### Good Germans and Good Catholics

Even while they spoke out against Nazi encroachments on the Catholic Church, Von Galen, Faulhaber and Grober called for 100 % support for the war and obedience to the Supreme Commander. In 1935 Bishop Von Galen issued a statement affirming that *We are good Germans and we are at the same time good Catholics*. In 1939, he celebrated the defeat of the Communist government in Spain *with gratitude toward God Who gave the victory to the brave warriors against the legions of the antichrist*. The *brave warriors* who overthrew *antichrist* received substantial military aid from Hitler's government which was presumably therefore on the side of Christ. [Zahn 90-91] They still haven't dug up 600 mass graves in which 30,000 victims of Franco's fascist government were buried in 1936-39. (NYT 6-25-04 )

Hitler's partnership with Christ and Franco should have made it difficult to justify the pact that Hitler made with Stalin that same year. But Zahn says there is "no record of public protest on Von Galen's part when the Nazi-Soviet friendship did become an open and active partnership" nor did he have anything to say against the agreement which ceded half of Catholic Poland to Communist Russia. And Bishop Von Galen characterizes the 1939 German invasions this way: *Once again a large part of our men and youth has been called to arms, and they are engaged in bloody conflict or stand guard on the borders in firm determination to shield the Vaterland and to risk their lives to win for our Volk a peace of freedom and justice.* [Zahn 93] Without attempting to explain what the invasion of Poland, Belgium etc. could possibly have to do with *peace, freedom or justice*. Of course he is using these words in the usual imperial way, as a cover for every kind of war, conquest and injustice.

#### Thank God for Hitler

Like other newspapers, the diocesan paper of Cardinal Faulhaber "devoted extensive and prominent coverage to Hitler's 50th birthday in April 1939." It featured a full page spread adorned with a photograph of the Fuhrer in uniform and an article which thanked God for Hitler: *Thus we have truly sufficient cause to thank Divine Providence that, after the bloody international strife of the World War and the subsequent years of defeat, the German Volk was again favored and the nation's leadership entrusted to a statesman who understood how to unite a power without historical parallel in his hands. Only thus was it possible to rise up against Bolshevism in the decisive hour and to bring our full strength to the fray . . . . Divine Providence spared us the terrible fate that was visited upon the Spanish people two-and-a-half years ago.* [Zahn 111] This article appeared a few months before the pact was signed with Bolshevik Russia which allowed Germany and Russia to divide Poland between them. But the *Crusade Against Bolshevism* remained a major moral justification for going along with Hitler's wars. It displays the usual moral blindness of patriotism. Just so, America always stands for *Freedom*, by definition, even while it supports every kind of tyranny.

Writing in 1945, after the total defeat of Germany, Archbishop Conrad Grober of Freiburg recalled how he and many others welcomed the advent of the National Socialist government in 1933 as meaning that *the longed-for pacification and ordering of the divided and discontented German community had arrived*. As in Mussolini's Italy, the Fascists seemed to be the only alternative to the Communist revolution. In 1934 Grober issued this statement: *As bishop, I say to you: the German Volk will not attain its future greatness by forgetting its Christian past but, instead, only by continuing to build upon the foundations of Christianity. I call upon you, therefore, to be and to remain loyal Catholic men and women, come what may. The great Fuhrer of our Volk wants no Kulturkampf, and I think he will do all he can to avoid a kulturkampf.* [Zahn 121-123] So even while he protested against the *new heathenism* promoted by the Nazis, he refused to blame Hitler himself and he still identified with the **FUTURE GREATNESS** which the German Empire could achieve *only by continuing to build upon the foundations of Christianity*. [kulturkampf refers to the anti Catholic measures once taken by Bismarck] Because he firmly believes in the Great German Empire, he has to believe in *the great Fuhrer* whom God has appointed to lead it to *its future greatness*.

#### Invincible Trust

Archbishop Grober displays that **INVINCIBLE TRUST** which is characteristic of patriotism. I believe and therefore I refuse to doubt. It is the mindset of those who refuse to believe that George Washington was a Freemason because they have to **BELIEVE** in him as the Father of *Christian America*. These fellows are the spiritual brothers of the **trusting fellow** in the Ernest Tubb song: *My Baby took a cooking class to fill my heart with glee, Then I detected poison in a cake she baked for me, But I know my Baby loves me in her own peculiar way. My Baby went downtown to catch a picture show, She said "I'll see you later," that was 20 years ago, But I know my Baby loves me in her own peculiar way.* Whatever his peccadillos, *the great Fuhrer of our Volk*, was still leading the way to *future greatness*. Which would be built upon a Christian Foundation, despite his efforts to promote neo paganism.

The Bishop's Faith in the Caesar-Czar-Kaiser-Fuhrer betrays something profound and profoundly troubling about the human psyche. The Russian peasants believed in the Czar and worshipped him, as Tolstoy vividly describes. However much they suffered, they never blamed the Czar and trusted that he would do something about it, if he only knew. In America, the same aura of divinity gathers around The President. However much everyone correctly despises him as a man, as **THE PRESIDENT** he has become a sacred figure. If a few dozen common folk--or a few thousand, or a few million--are unfortunately wasted, we can deal with it, but the loss of **THE PRESIDENT** demands national mourning.

Is it difficult to believe that the German bishops were ignorant of what was being done to the Jews of Germany ? In fact they seem to have been willfully oblivious of all the basic realities of the war. They persisted in viewing it with a patriotic myopia whereby they saw holy self-sacrifice and Christian martyrdom instead of murder, rape and armed robbery. They saw the fundamental obscenity of the war draped in a milk white robe and enveloped in a cloud of incense. They refused to know what they did not want to know. But we have the same thing here in America, even when the press is not censored and the output of the government propaganda machine is puny compared to what it was during World War II. Since we are blind to our own children being murdered by abortion, it is not surprising that we are blind to the murder of children in far off places. Like the bishops of Nazi Germany, *we have eyes and do not see.*

( See the next section, **Catholic Complicity with the Murder of the Jews**, for more about the responsibility of the Bishops for the Destruction of the Jews of Germany )

*the legitimate authority*

In his 1935 publication *Kirche, Vaterland und Vaterlandsliebe* Archbishop Grober briefly dismissed the question of Christian pacifism and **JUST WAR**: *In her almost two thousand years of existence, [more like 1600] the Church has never yet absolved her members from military duty, as have several sects--for instance, the Manichaeans and the followers of Wycliffe. [ and the followers of Jesus Christ ] She has on the contrary, rejected the extreme and helpless pacifism which sees war as something forbidden and unchristian and thereby surrenders power to the unjust. . . . Catholic theologians have always distinguished between the just and unjust war and have never left it to the judgment of the individual, with all of his shortsightedness and emotionalism, to decide the justice of any given war. Instead, the final decision has been left to the legitimate authority. [Zahn 125]*

That is, the decision as to whether the invasion of Poland or Belgium is a **JUST WAR** must be left to *the legitimate authority* of Adolph Hitler himself in consultation with whatever god he believes in. To avoid the *surrender of power to the unjust*, they **SURRENDERED** it to Adolph Hitler ! ! ! Who naturally had no problem with *shortsightedness and emotionalism*--or **injustice**--no more than did the patriot bishops themselves. They merely had a problem with **CRIMINAL INSANITY**, like the Fuhrer himself. They were all Far Sighted enough to envision the revival of the Great German Empire, alias The Third Reich.

How could they have been worse off relying upon the judgment of individuals, however shortsighted and emotional ? But you do need a real Christian Church, which teaches real Christian standards of morality, and which stands behind individuals with the Courage and the Conscience to stand up to the war machine and the patriot cult. Individuals like Franz Jaggerstatter. Whose heroic witness will forever shame the other Catholics of Hitler's Germany. Especially the bishops.

Of course Hitler's Wars could not be described as *unchristian* when they were fought under banners with both the old cross and the new cross on them. What more do you need ? Why be a *helpless* pacifist when you can be a morally helpless patriot Christian who trots along behind Der Fuhrer to mass murder, rape and robbery and the total destruction of *Volk* and *Vaterland* ? Why die a victim when you can take a few victims to hell with you ? Where else are you going ? Meanwhile, Grober himself has no hesitation in arriving at the conclusion that German soldiers are serving the Lord when they obey the orders of the Fuhrer. In a 1939 letter from Grober to the men in service he "charged each of them *to work as a good soldier of Christ . . . A soldier's death is, therefore, a sacrificial death. A sacrificial death is a hero's death.* [Zahn 126] A 1941 message shows that he basically agreed with the goals of the war which would give Germany *undiminished freedom in the Heimat as well as the living space it needs.* [Zahn 128] The concept of *LIVING SPACE*, used by Hitler to justify wars of territorial expansion, resonated with the German people, including the bishop. He could even accept the confiscation of the church bells, supposedly necessary for war material: *you will continue to serve Christ the King in another form since your sacrifice will contribute to the conquest of godless and anti-Christian Bolshevism* [Zahn 128-129] Since Bolshevism is *godless and anti-Christian*, we don't have to question what Nazism represents. And everyone knows that you have to *fight fire with fire*. That is, you have to become as evil as they are in order to beat them. In fact, you have to out do them in evil. How else can you win ?

#### Don't Take It Literally

Archbishop Grober's Christmas message of 1942 quotes the gospel saying that *all those who take up the sword will perish with it* and then says *This is not, of course, to be taken literally.* [Zahn 130] To be sure, it was bombs and bullets--not *literally* swords--that destroyed Germany, after they had rained so many bombs and bullets on others.

In the name of all good things these German soldiers did every evil thing. Out of Love, supposedly, they performed the Works of Hatred. And you can see why in the patriotic sermons and epistles of these bishops who were truly *BLIND MEN LEADING THE BLIND*. There is the usual patriotic depiction of soldiers as noble Christian warriors, *soldiers of Christ*, motivated by love of country to bravely sacrifice themselves. [Zahn 126] There is not the least hint of what these soldiers were actually doing. No reference to the Jews they rounded up and mowed down or shipped off to the death camps. Not a hint of what they routinely did to the women of the villages they passed through on their way to the final orgy of mass murder and mass suicide at Stalingrad. Would that the murderous madness of this **FALSE FAITH** had died with Hitler. But it is alive and well today and **ready to roll** again. It is rolling and it will arrive at the same destination. It always does.



## Just War

As Zahn shows, the so-called *Just War* question was never raised, even while the bishops opposed the Nazi government on moral questions like euthanasia and sterilization and defended the property and the organizational privileges of the Church. [Zahn 68-72] Unless Rarkowski's rhetorical phrases like *fighting a just war* and *our good and just cause* may be regarded as disposing of it by standard patriotic assumption. [Zahn 154-155] Even while they resisted measures aimed at their property and privileges, the German Bishops did not see Hitler's wars as presenting any moral problem ! Which is not so surprising. Augustine's *Just War* theology was designed to provide just such a blanket of moral cover for any and all imperial wars. When was it ever used to stop a war ?

This theology does not allow the individual to decide the justice of a war nor does it empower the bishop to review the question. It leaves it up to *legitimate authority*. So it is up to *Our Supreme Commander* to make the final decision as to whether the war is just or not. The rest of us must take the oath of **unconditional** loyalty to obey the *Fuhrer's* commands. We must kill and die as ordered. The war is **JUST** if the leader proclaims it to be **JUST**. Only God can argue with him--respectfully of course--the rest of us have nothing to say about it. It is no business of ours. ***Ours not to reason why, ours but to kill and die.*** This theology, which allows Hitler to be the judge of his own actions, was Moral Madness long before Hitler came along to illustrate it.

Augustine's doctrine was that it is up to the ruler to decide upon the *justice* of the war. The individual who actually fights the war has no competence to second guess that decision: *If war is waged out of the cupidity of man, this hurts not the saints--for there is no power but of God, either commanding or permitting. A just man then, if perchance he be in military service under a king, who is even a sacrilegious man, may rightly war at his command . . . the injustice of the command may make the king guilty, but the due order of obeying may prove the soldier innocent.* [ *Contra Faustus* xxii 74, 75 ] That was Adolph Eichmann's defense: *I was just following orders.*

The concept of a **JUST WAR** makes as much moral sense as the concept of a **CHASTE PROSTITUTE**. If it was useless in the case of Hitler's wars, what use will it ever be ? Of course Adolph Hitler did believe in god--the same god that every empire must worship. How else did he get the power to murder millions ? *All this power will I give you if you will fall down and worship me.* And the bishops worshipped the same god, whether they knew it or not. Adolph Hitler did not create the position he occupied. He stepped into a position which had been there for 1600 years. Constantine was no more a Christian than he was. That position is created by those who worship the **GOD OF THE EMPIRE**, who is plainly ***the god of this world.*** Now Hitler alone is given the blame for all the evil that was done. But 100 million pairs of hands helped him, and the same evil spirit took possession of them all. As Tyconius wrote in the 4th century: *evil men are the throne of Satan.* Those men who know how to maintain a veneer of Christian righteousness while they go along with mass murder are Satan's most cherished allies and supporters. And that describes these bishops. Hitler could not have done it without them.

### The Just Cause

It is strange to read the encouragements of the bishops given to the soldiers to fight bravely to defend *Volk* and *Vaterland*, out of love for their homes, their families and their **COUNTRY**. With the encouragement and sanction of the bishops, they destroyed all three, after first destroying the homes, the families and the countries of Europe. To defend their families, they invaded Poland. To defend their homes, they invaded France. To defend their country, they invaded Russia. And then brought the enemy back with them to destroy Germany.

But wasn't the Soviet Union an *evil empire* ? So didn't they have a Mission to get rid of these *evil doers* ? Never mind the beam in your own eye when you can see clearly enough that your opponent is truly evil. You have to *fight fire with fire* don't you ? To defeat evil, you have to become just as evil yourself ! And so they did. They thereby multiplied the evil they fought against. The half successful and self-serving German crusade against Communism led to a major expansion of the Soviet Empire--thanks to the alliance with America. The 60 years without a war which followed have led to the near collapse of that Empire and forced it to let go of Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia etc. Which illustrates the fallacy that war is the effective way to destroy evil empires. The truth is the exact opposite: **War creates evil empires**. *War is the Health of the State*, as Bismarck truly said. Without war, the empire sickens and dies. The Great Empire is a **GREAT VAMPIRE** which cannot live without blood.

### Germany Will Be Our Religion

In 1930, in a conversation with his brother Alois, Hitler said: *First we will get rid of the Jews. They are the weakest. And then we will rule out Catholicism. The Catholics are too well organized. In a few generations no one will know that a Jew called Jesus ever existed and no German will be ruled by a man in a robe. GERMANY WILL BE OUR RELIGION.* [Memoirs of Bridget Hitler 59] After they came to power in 1933, Hitler's National Socialist government did set out to take control of the Catholic Church. But the Catholic Bishops resisted that attempt with substantial success. Why then did they continue to accept the Nazi government as legitimate ? Why did they continue to insist that Catholics must whole-heartedly participate in and support the wars which the Nazis launched to establish their neo pagan world order, the *1000 Year Reich* ? The answer is that these bishops of the Secular Catholic Church shared Adolph Hitler's basic religion: *GERMANY WAS THEIR RELIGION*. Hitler was the **ULTIMATE PATRIOT**. He wanted to go back to **BASIC GERMAN VALUES**--all the way back to Germany before Christianity. The bishops just wanted to go back to the time of the Holy Roman Empire--the unholy German half empire. But they were all going the same way and they could all go a long way down the same road together. They all yearned to restore Germany to its former pride, power, and prosperity.

Do Americans find that hard to understand. Isn't **AMERICA OUR RELIGION** ? Imagine that America had been defeated in a great war. Had lost half its territory. Had been impoverished by being forced to pay war reparations. Found itself in so weakened a condition that it routinely had to put up with being bullied by foreign governments. Then along comes a man and a movement which restores *AMERICA* to what it once was and more. The old invincible military power is rebuilt and the old borders are restored. Once more there is full employment. He restores **the pride, the power and the prosperity** of America. The old patriotic slogans recover their full resonance: ***GOD BLESS AMERICA ! AMERICA IS THE GREATEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD ! THE LAND OF OPPORTUNITY ! ONLY IN AMERICA !*** Would it be surprising if most Americans, and most Christian Americans, followed such a man on this **GREAT ROAD TO GLORY** ? Or if they saw it as their **SACRED DUTY** to do so ? Especially when, defeat would mean, not just the loss of some far off overseas territory but the occupation of the home land by foreign invaders.

### Bound For Glory !

Like Bishop Splett, we believe in *the Holy Empire* which offers *protection and order . . . for the whole of Western civilization*. ***GOD BLESS AMERICA*** is, as it were, an exact spiritual translation of *Holy Empire*. And, like that empire, this one has a Mission to all humanity. Via the military of course. How else would you do it ? They believed that German military **POWER** was God's power. How can Christians destroy *evil doers* except through bombs, bullets and the bayonet in the belly. **Take That Evil Doer !** The over riding faith in America is the mirror image of the faith in Germany which these bishops displayed. When Spellman visited the soldiers in Vietnam he gave his own version of the patriot's saying: ***My Country Right or Wrong***. The faith that America is Sacred and that it has a mission from God to do Great Things to the rest of the World is fundamentally the same faith which pushed the German Christians to follow the **REICH FUHRER** down that Great Road of Glory and right on over the cliff.

The letter from Bishop Rarkowski which greeted the opening of *the great and decisive conflict in the East--the invasion of Russia in 1941--shows his Faith in Germany's Mission to Save Europe and the World from Godless Bolshevism*. *Comrades ! Who will doubt that we Germans have once again become the "Heart Volk" of Europe and this in a sense that reaches far beyond merely geographic or geopolitical considerations ? As was so often true in the past, the Germany of today has again become Europe's savior and champion. Many European countries which have until now lived under the threatening shadows of the Bolshevik danger and have had to endure repeatedly internal seditions as a consequence of Bolshevik teachings know that the war against Russia is a European crusade. . . . You in the East, like the Teutonic Knights of long ago, have a task to perform that is of singular meaning and importance and whose consequences for our Volk--yea, for Europe and all mankind--cannot even yet be fully grasped . . . Tie up your gigantic task in earnest ! Be aware of your mission ! Live in the strength of your Faith ! Then will the victory be yours, a victory that will permit Europe to breathe freely again and will be to all peoples the promise of a new future.* [Zahn 155-156]

He is troubled by no suspicion that a Germany led by Adolph Hitler and the Nazis might fail to qualify as Christian Knights riding off upon a Crusade to Destroy Evil Communism. (And getting rid of the Jews while they are at it--two birds with one stone as it were.) That Invincible Faith in Our Own Righteousness has been temporarily crushed down in Germany since World War II. But it still grows luxuriantly in America. The trick is to keep the spotlight on Their Evil, so that Your Evil can hide in the shadows.

If it seems strange that a nation which was supposedly Christian could so readily follow a man and a party which was in fact anti-Christian, note that the exact same thing has happened in America where people who called themselves Christians followed leaders who were Freemasons in a war to establish the *NEW WORLD ORDER*. We too find it easy to believe in that which represents the full achievement of our national pride and power. If those who lead us there have a secret anti Christian agenda (see *THE SECRET FAITH OF THE FOUNDING FATHERS*) it is only incidental to the goal we all believe in. *Stand Beside Her and Guide Her, Through the Night with a Light from Above*. Or a light from below--from the burning fires of bombed out buildings--just so we arrive at Our Destiny: **DEUTSCHLAND UBER ALLES ! AMERICA IS THE GREATEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD !**

#### Hitler's Victims and Hitler's Allies

Everybody has some claim to have been persecuted by Hitler and the Nazis and they wave it as a moral credential: See: we were opposed to Hitler--or at least he was opposed to us. But if everyone was against him, who was for him ? It is true that the Nazis persecuted just about everyone, including fellow Nazis, before it was over. But it is also true--and much more relevant--that most of those who were persecuted were also complicit in the rise of Hitler, and in the rise of the Fascism and the Communism which triggered World War II. And those forces continue to shape our world. America's contribution to World War II tipped the balance in favor of Communism and produced a new wave of mass murder in Eastern Europe and Russia which rolled all the way to China and Vietnam and Cambodia.

Hitler attacked the Catholic Church and the Protestant Church. But without the patriotic support of the Catholics and the Protestants the Nazi war machine would have ground to a halt. Is it really to their credit that the Nazis some times persecuted them ? Does that cover what they did when they marched off by the millions to participate in Hitler's wars ? And the same question has to be raised about so many others who invoke persecution as the cover for what they did. The Jews of Europe became one of the primary victims of the Nazis but men and women who abandoned Judaism for the new religions of Socialism and Communism played a major role in the events of the 19th and early 20th centuries which led to the terrible conflict between the National Socialists of Germany and the national socialists of Russia and which led to the killing fields of World War II. They *sowed the wind and reaped the whirlwind*. The religious Jews of Germany can justly be described as the innocent victims of Nazism and Bolshevism, but religious Jews had become a small minority of the so-called *Jews* of Europe by the end of the 19th century.

#### Communism and Judaism

The rise of *fascism* in Spain, Italy and Germany was a direct response to the challenge of the rise of Bolshevism in Europe. Was Communism the enemy of Fascism ? It actually produced Fascism, like an antigen produces an antibody. It was the **mirror image** and the first cousin of Fascism. In their rivalry, Stalin and Hitler fed off each other. The one justified and strengthened the other. The Nazis first attempt to seize power in Munich, the capital of Bavaria, in 1923, followed a series of *Communist Republics* in Germany established by similar uprisings sponsored by the new Communist government of Russia. Kurt Eisner, described as *a bohemian Jewish journalist*, headed a government of *Soviet Workers' and Soldiers' Councils* in Bavaria in 1918.

A modern Israeli writer, Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi, documents the extent to which apostate *Jews* played a major role in early 20th century Communism. In 1903, *Jews--ex Jews--* made up 50 per cent of the members of revolutionary parties (Frankel 1981). In 1905 they made up one-third of the revolutionaries arrested. Non religious and anti-religious *ex Jews* made up 50 percent of the membership of the Communist Party of the United States between 1930 and the mid-1940s. A. Liebman *Jews and the New Left* 1979.

"Jews were prominent in the revolutionary movements in Germany following the end of World War I. Kurt Eisner was the premier of the Bavarian Socialist Republic when he was assassinated. Gustav Landauer, education minister in the same government paid with his life in 1919 as did Rosa Luxemburg who led the so-called *Spartacist uprising* in Berlin. The short-lived Soviet Republic of Hungary, created in a coup on March 21, 1919, and drowned in blood on August 1, 1919 was led by a group of Bolshevik commissars who were mostly well-educated assimilated Jews. Their leader was **Bela Kun**, and among them were Georg Lukacs, People's Commissar for Public Education, later a renowned Marxist scholar, and Matyas Radosi, the leader of communist Hungary after 1948." "Jewish participation in the leadership of Soviet communism has been remarkable. The names of Trotsky, Zinoviev, Kamenev and Radek are only a few among the thousands who played major roles. Many of the leaders and the activists of Eastern European communism between 1945 and 1956 (**Stalinist Communism**, that is), were Jewish." [ from: Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi *Original Sins Reflections on the History of Zionism and Israel* 1992 pages 30-31 ]

#### Marx and Lassalle

The German socialist tradition from which the *National Socialists* emerged owes much to Karl Marx and Ferdinand Lassalle, both of them apostates from Judaism, both of them hostile to traditional religion and traditional sexual morality. The so-called mis-labeled *anti semitism* of 19th century Socialism was aimed at both religious Jews and at the new class of *assimilated* Jewish Capitalists. Jewish Socialists often went along with it because of their own animus. The Socialists of Russia even welcomed the riotous peasant attacks upon traditional Jewish communities which followed the assassination of Czar Alexander II by Socialists in 1881, because they hoped it would push them into radicalism. Jewish Socialists were prominent among the assassins. They were rebels against Judaism and diverted the spiritual energy of Messianic and apocalyptic Judaism into the Socialist and Communist and Zionist version of the Messianic kingdom.

Obviously a basic distinction should be made between the *Jews* who still believe in Judaism and the *Ex Jews* who became Communists and who loyally supported the Bolshevik campaign against the Christian Church. But this distinction is rarely made by either side and the charge of *anti-semitism* is used to defend the actions of those apostate Jews who believed in Stalinism and who became the enemies of both Judaism and Christianity. They halfway justify the attitude of Catholic bishops who indiscriminately lumped together Jews who practiced Judaism with Jews who became Communists. In 1936, the Catholic Primate of Poland wrote in a pastoral letter, *There will be the Jewish problem as long as the Jews remain . . . It is a fact that the Jews are fighting against the Catholic church, persisting in free thinking, and are the vanguard of godlessness, Bolshevism, and subversion.* [ Geoffrey Wheatcroft *The Controversy of Zion* 1996. ] This statement cannot be dismissed as just ignorant prejudice. It is at least halfway true. But the attack by Nazi Germany upon the Polish Catholic Church turned out to be as lethal as the attack by Communist Russia.

## Socialism, Capitalism and Militarism

Like any political party on the make, the Nazis compromised away most of what they had originally stood for. In their final rise to power, the *National Socialist German Workers Party*--the *Nazis*--relied upon an alliance with German capitalists and the German military. But they were originally radical *Socialists*, the rivals of the Social Democrats and the Communists, and *Socialism* was basic to the foundation of the Party. The 25 points Hitler proclaimed in his speech of February 24th 1920 constitute as extreme a Socialist program as any offered by their rivals. The *National Socialism* that captured both Russia and Germany after the First World War provided an important part of the ideology of mass murder. *Socialism* left pacifism behind in World War I and became a new and dynamic fighting faith.

In the 1930s, half of Communist Party members were people from Jewish backgrounds, that is, apostate Jews who had joined a new religion. The Communists played a key role in pushing the Roosevelt Administration into World War II on the side of Joe Stalin and the Bolsheviks as we have belatedly learned. Harry Dexter White pushed the economic policy which provoked Japan to attack Pearl Harbor. Like other American Communists he did his best to implement Soviet policies. The aim in this case was to deflect Japanese aggression away from the Soviet Union and pull America into the War on the side of the Russians.

Their religious enthusiasm fueled the movement for a new world order from which Judaism, Christianity and sexual morality had been banished. Radical Feminism was part of the Communist Movement and persists long after the collapse of Communism. It still is pushing for that new world order from which faith and family have been banished. It depends upon the genocide of abortion to create its *living space*. It is a major force behind the attempt to impose the aborted and contracepted anti family of modern America upon the Moslem world.

After they came to power, the Nazis proscribed the Freemasons. But the neo-pagan ideology of the Nazi Party came from German Freemasonry. The *Germanen Order* and the *Thule Society* represented a German Nationalist reformation of Freemasonry. The universal neo-paganism of Freemasonry was replaced by a specifically German neo-paganism. *Woden* replaced *Osiris* as their sun god and major deity. A patriotic mythology of ancient Germany was grafted onto the mythology of Freemasonry. The mandate for sexual liberation and abolishing the family came from both Freemasonry and Socialism.

## Charles Darwin and Scientific Genocide

The lethal character of the Nazi program aimed at the Jews involved a racism, an *anti Semitism* which is different from the Christian persecutions that mandated forced conversion. See Shirer 86-87 on Hitler's faith in the Aryan Master Race and racial purity: *The Aryan gave up the purity of his blood.* "Like Darwin, but also like a whole array of German philosophers . . . Hitler saw all life as an eternal struggle and the world as a jungle where the fittest survived and the strongest ruled."

The pseudo-*scientific* basis of Nazi ideology owes much to Charles Darwin, whose major book published in 1859 was titled: *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favored Races in the Struggle for Life.* [Emphasis added.] Darwin followed up this theme in *The Descent of Man* where he wrote that: *the civilized races of man will almost certainly exterminate and replace throughout the world the savage races.* Hitler said *Amen !* to that. Karl Marx admired Darwin greatly. Both the Communists and the Fascists of World War II believed themselves to be *scientists*. Marx claimed that he had produced *scientific socialism*. The Nazis shared with Margaret Sanger and the America Birth Control movement a brief for improving the human race by *eugenics* and by getting rid of the lower class humanity that Sanger described as *weeds* and *human waste*. That agenda is still a basic doctrine of modern secularism although it is concealed behind a fake facade of liberal humanitarianism. It is still the half hidden agenda of Planned Parenthood. *Every child a wanted child* means that, if you are not *wanted*, you belong in the trash at the abortuary.

There is an essential similarity between the Nazi program to get rid of unwanted **races** like the Jews, the Gypsies and the Slavs and the Communist program to *liquidate* recalcitrant classes. The Bolsheviks justified the starvation of 10 million Ukrainians in 1932-1933 on the grounds that they were *kulaks*. Was this better than exterminating them because of their race ? The relentless annihilation of millions by Mao Tse Tung in China shows the same mind set. Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge systematically murdered whole classes of Cambodians who were **not wanted** in the brave new world they were building. Like the *intellectuals* = anyone wearing eye glasses. They displayed the same inclination for genocide which led to the annihilation of the Jews of Europe. Because Stalin was the ally of America, because he won the war while Hitler lost, and because Stalinism was embraced by a large number of the apostate Jews of Europe and America, we have never put the same spotlight on the death camps of the Communists which was put upon the death camps of the fascists. In fact, as the book by Robert Conquest shows, the left leaning New York press systematically concealed the crimes of Stalin. And the genteel genocide of Planned Parenthood is still considered respectable by much of the world.



## Freemasonry and Socialism

The dis-establishment of the Christian religious establishment, under the guise of *Liberty*, was originally the program of the 18th century Freemasons who led both the American Revolution and the French Revolution. Early in the 19th century, Napoleon decreed full citizenship for the Jews of Europe in exchange for including them in the universal military conscription which his large armies required. It had a far reaching effect upon Jewish life and led to a great exodus of Jews from Judaism. Many assimilated into secular society and in effect disappeared. Many converted to Christianity, although it was often the sort of nominal conversion to secular Christianity that you can see in the family of Karl Marx. Those who retained some of the passion and purpose of persecuted Judaism often became *socialists* of various kinds. In places like Russia and Poland *Socialism* became the majority religion of people who had once been forced by the walls of the ghetto to remain at least nominally Jewish.

The *socialist* rebellion against society was fueled by the alienation from society of a group that had long been persecuted by it and which had persevered in a religious passion that easily led to the radical rejection of conventional society. Bolshevik Communism and Zionism were only two of the varieties of *socialism* to which former Jews belonged. Of course many of them still identified themselves as *Jewish*, long after they had discarded the original faith and morals of Judaism. They thus re-defined Judaism and created the kind of confusion that Hitler invoked when he rounded up religious Jews, Jewish converts to Christianity, and wholly secularized Jews indiscriminately and justified it as a necessary war time measure against the menacing Bolsheviks.

## Anti-Jewish Judaism

There was arguably some relationship, as there is today between Moslems generally and the *terrorist* groups which have targeted western societies. Zionism was and is a kind of anti-Jewish Judaism, a peculiar combination of Secular Judaism and National Socialism. In Israel, they flew the red flag over the early settlements and preached and practiced *free love*, as they do today. The great confusion between Zionism, Socialism and Judaism has become an even more lethal combination with the addition of that **Christian Zionism** which the TV evangelists are preaching to a mass audience. They look forward cheerfully to watching *Armageddon* engulf Israel from a safe seat in some heavenly balcony to which they have been *raptured*. And they do everything they can to finance *Greater Israel*. Since the Moslem nations will soon have all our gas money and, sooner or later, be able to buy all of our wonderful weapons systems, there is obviously Some Reason for Concern. [ see **Zionism versus Judaism** ]

## Homosexual Liberation

After they came to power in 1933, the Nazis consolidated their new position by passing laws against homosexuals and they put several thousand of them in concentration camps. On June 28 1934, they murdered Captain Ernst Roehm and many of his deputies--all of them homosexuals--in the SA, the original military arm of the Nazi Party--because they were plotting a coup against Hitler's leadership. But the Nazi Party was rooted in the homosexual liberation movement of the Weimar Republic and homosexuals continued to have prominent roles in it after the Roehm purge. As with Socialists and Communists generally, sexual liberation, including homosexual liberation, was part of their essential ideology, even if it was sometimes concealed, as with the other Socialist and Communist groups which usually concealed, for politic reasons, this basic historical component of their beliefs. The second section of the *Communist Manifesto* sets forth the **Sexual Liberation** which was a basic doctrine of early Communism, which was adopted by both left and right Socialists and by the Zionists. It was a basic part of the Nazi / Communist attack upon traditional Jewish / Christian sexual morality. Lassalle hired Schweitzer after he was jailed and disbarred for sodomy with a school boy in 1862. A **Military Macho** type of **leather and chains** homosexuality was basic to the core support of the early Nazi Party and helps to explain their extreme drive to Power and to a neo-pagan and anti family New World Order. (As with the 18th century Freemasons.) *The Pink Swastika* by Scott Lively and Kevin Abrams gives a scholarly account of this aspect of Nazi ideology. They present good evidence that Adolph Hitler had been a pedophile. See especially *Supplement to the First Edition* on page 200.

All of these forces contributed building blocks to the foundation of Nazi Germany: homosexual liberation; **scientific** racism; anti family Socialism; Jewish Bolshevism; neo-pagan Freemasonry. But the Capitalists and the Military establishment became the strong walls of the structure. And, above all, that **Patriotic Worship of Military Power** which is the congenital disease of Secular Christianity put a roof on the rebuilt palace of imperial Germany. Without the fervent support of the Christian pastors, Hitler and his Nazi Party would have remained an ineffectual minority. Hitler's speeches could never have moved the populace had they not been echoed in the sermons of the pastors of Germany, had he not been able to summon them to act upon what they already devoutly believed.

## The Sacred State

Like us, the Germans were inoculated in childhood with patriotic propaganda. They were taught to believe in the Sacred State as a major focus of their religious faith. It is the central doctrine of Secular Christianity. They were taught to see soldiers as Christian martyrs and brainwashed unto blindness in respect to the killing that soldiers do. They were taught to worship the flag which represents the Military Power of the Empire. When we invoke **GodBlessAmerica**, we are in fact invoking the god of empire, alias *the god of this world*--that Mighty One who protects us so long as we render human sacrifice to his voracious appetite for blood. You cheerfully sacrifice the blood of others. And even the blood of your own son if you must.

The Nazi war machine was a German war machine--it incorporated the power of the German nation, it was driven by the patriotic faith of the German people. The German war machine was a Protestant and Catholic war machine--who else could have been responsible ? They were 90 per cent of the German people. And the fundamental thoughts and feelings of these people are not different from the thoughts and feelings of the American people. Look at the ease with which they justified military aggression in the name of *defense*. Then look at how easily we do the same thing. Look at the madness of their religious faith in **GERMANY**, meaning the triumph of the German military and the destiny to which it was taking them. Then look at the madness of our religious faith in **AMERICA**. How will our destiny be any different ? It won't. We pride ourselves on having been Hitler's opponents. And hang a curtain over the fact that we were Stalin's allies. And hang another curtain over our mass murder of the common people of Japan and Germany.

Hitler would have been a lonesome vegetarian without all those who helped him in one way or another. **Hitler had a lot of helpers.** It is past time for them to come forward and claim their rewards. Those who refuse to learn history and tell the truth about it are condemned to repeat it. And that is just what we are doing. Hitler is dead and gone but the forces which produced Hitler are alive and well. The spirit which drove him has long been a resident of America. The Secular Christianity which provided the false faith of German nationalism for Hitler's conquests is the foundation of America as it was the foundation of Germany. That feverish vision of a **new world order** via military conquest which drove the Germans still drives us. It is not an alien spirit. It animates Secular Christianity and Secular Judaism. The National Socialism of the Zionists joined to the Military Christianity of America are leading us down a familiar road: a highway lined with the wreckage of past empires. The *Christian Zionists* of America--**all** of the TV evangelists!--look forward with enthusiasm to the **Battle of Armageddon**--aka World War III--which is about to engulf Israel and its American ally. They confidently expect to get *raptured* before the *tribulation* arrives. Leaving the rest of us to deal with it.

#### *Amerika* Rolls On

The attack upon sexual morality and the family, the movement for sexual liberation and homosexual liberation for a new world order, is stronger here than it was in the Weimar Republic. The Nazis and the Bolsheviks backed away from the abortion they originally allowed but America has not backed away. What *Blessing* will come upon a grotesquely immoral nation which murders a million of its own children every year ? What military triumph over *evil doers* in far off places can atone for what the *evil doers* are doing here ? The attack upon traditional morality has been incorporated into America's attack upon the Moslems. There is a back door alliance between Planned Parenthood, the National Organization of Women, the United Nations, and the American government. Hitler's personal train, with which he visited the battle fronts of Europe as Commander in Chief, was called the *Amerika*. **AMERIKA** is still rolling. As Ronald Reagan said, **WE HAVE A RENDEZVOUS WITH DESTINY**--the same destiny that all great empires arrive at in the end.

## CATHOLIC COMPLICITY WITH THE MURDER OF THE JEWS

Gordon Zahn's book is focused primarily upon the question as to how and why the Catholic bishops of Germany supported Hitler's wars and discouraged any Catholic resistance to German militarism--why the *just war* doctrine was so useless. Zahn was a conscientious objector in World War II in part because of his reluctance to join a war against the country of his grandparents.

Eisenhower's obsessive personal hatred of the Germans, and especially of army officers like himself, is characteristic of many German-Americans who went to war against their own former countrymen. Sometimes the result is even stranger. Sergeant Henry Gunther, the last American soldier killed in World War I, was a German-American who had been a reluctant draftee. He was demoted to private because of a letter he wrote to a friend back home telling him to avoid the war. Subsequently he became a gung ho soldier. The last morning of the war, he advanced upon a German position, forcing them to shoot him, at 10:59 am November 11th 1918--one minute before the Armistice took effect ! The story is told in Joseph Persico *11th Month 11th Day 11th Hour Armistice Day 1918*. It is not uncommon for a soldier to feel that he is somehow killing himself, when he kills an enemy soldier, even when there is a basic difference of nation or race. It is not uncommon for soldiers to commit suicide later on, as a kind of atonement, because they suffer from the memory of what they once did. That feeling is likely to be intensified when you have killed those who may very well be your cousins.

### Guenter Lewy's Book

Another German-American Catholic professor visited Germany in 1961-1962, a few years after Zahn was there, and he focused his research upon the question as to what resistance the Catholics and their clergy gave to other Nazi programs including especially the systematic exile and murder of the Jews of Germany. Guenter Lewy was a Jewish convert to the Catholic Church who came to the United States in 1939 when he was 15 years old after escaping with his parents from Nazi Germany to Palestine. His book *The Catholic Church and Nazi Germany* was published in 1964. He restricted his study to the Catholic Church in Germany, excluding Austria and other places where the same question can be raised. He did not study what the Protestant Churches did, or what they failed to do.

Like Gordon Zahn, Guenter Lewy did extensive research in Catholic diocesan archives although he received less than full cooperation from the Church authorities who controlled the archives: "I was granted the privilege of working in the diocesan archives of Passau, Regensburg, Eichstatt, Hildesheim, Paderborn, Aachen, Trier, Mainz, and Limburg/Lahn (officials in the dioceses of Bamberg, Cologne, Freiburg/Breisgau, Rottenburg, and Speyer, for reasons best known to themselves, declined to cooperate.)" (Lewy page xiv) He also studied the archives of the German Foreign Ministry, some of them newly opened to researchers.

As is evident from his later book about Vietnam, Professor Lewy was not a pacifist and he does not find much fault with the German bishops for supporting Hitler's wars. He appears to be a sincere Catholic and he makes the best case he can for the German bishops. But he was forced to conclude that they were in substantial complicity with the Nazi policies against the Jews.

#### co-operating with employment discrimination

In April 1933 the Nazi government decreed the dismissal of Jews from the civil service. "Henceforth, anyone applying for government employment--and soon for various other positions as well--had to submit proof that he was not a Jew. . . . Since prior to 1874-1876 births had been registered only by the churches, the latter were asked to help in determining who was or was not fully Aryan, for under Nazi law this depended on the racial (i.e. religious) status of parents and grandparents. . . . the Church agreed to supply data from her own records on the religious origin of those under her care. The Church co-operated as a matter of course, complaining only that priests already overburdened with work were not receiving compensation for this special service to the state. . . . The very question of whether the Church should lend its help to the Nazi state in sorting out people of Jewish descent was never debated. On the contrary. *We have always unselfishly worked for the people without regard to gratitude or ingratitude*, a priest wrote in the *Klerusblatt* in September of 1934: *We shall also do our best in this service to the people*. And the co-operation of the Church in this matter continued right through the war years, when the price of being Jewish was no longer dismissal from a government job and loss of livelihood, but deportation and outright physical destruction. [Lewy 281-282 ]

Lewy's book was written not long after the appearance of Rolf Hochhuth's play *The Deputy* about the failure of Pope Pius XII to publicly protest the Nazi program against the Jews. And he also pursues the question as to why the Pope failed to publicly denounce the deportation of Jews from Rome, even while the Vatican rescued a substantial number. But, as he says, "Hochhuth has personalized a problem which cannot adequately be understood in terms of personalities." (Lewy 268) The larger question is the complicity of the Catholics of Germany and the Catholic bishops of Germany, as well as the complicity of the Protestants of Germany, who were after all the majority of Germans.

#### Anti-semitism versus anti-Judaism

The term *anti-semitism* has been used so indiscriminately that it obscures the reasons for the World War II massacre of the Jews. The Nazis were hostile to *The Jews* as a race--but the historic attitude of Christian religious establishments was anti Judaism. In medieval Spain the Jews were forced to become Christians. Which shows a distinctly different attitude from that which proscribes the race, regardless of what they believe. It is one thing to force Jews to become Christians and another to target even Jewish Christians as *Jews* on *racial* grounds, which was the policy of the Nazi government.

Historically, the Church persecuted *Jews*--those who practiced Judaism--not the Jewish race, and not *Semites*. And, in 1940s Germany, the Church did defend Jewish converts to Christianity while the Nazis insisted on including them in their program of persecution. There was at times a racial component in Catholic attitudes towards the Jews--for some much more than others--but it was only one element in a mixture that included religious antagonism, patriotism, nationalism and anti Communism.

Catholic groups provided substantial assistance to Jewish Catholics who lost jobs because of the Nazi exclusion policies. As Lewy points out, this was later cited as representing help for Jews in general, which it was not. "The recent [circa 1964] claim that the *St. Raphaelsverein* helped 1,950 Jews to emigrate and supported 25,000 Jews has no foundation in fact unless one still wants to use the concept, Jew, as a term of racial classification. During these years prior to the adoption of the *Final Solution of the Jewish Question*, the Church extended neither aid nor sympathy to other than Catholic non-Aryans. A few instances are on record where individual churchmen spoke up in defense of the Jews. . . . In March 1933 a priest in the Rhineland in a sermon characterized the vilification of the Jews as unjust and was fined 500 marks for abuse of the pulpit. . . . But the Church as such, speaking through the voice of her bishops, remained silent." (Lewy 283)

In 1938, Cardinal Bertram, the Archbishop of Breslau, refused to open the diocesan archives to researchers working for a new state institute for the study of the Jewish question out of "Concern for Catholic non-Aryans." In 1943 and 1944 he wrote letters of protest on behalf of some 8000 Jewish Christians who had been rounded up and deported along with non-Christian Jews. But he also stressed that the intervention of the bishops was not due *to lack of love for the German nationality, lack of a feeling of national dignity, and also not to underestimation of the harmful Jewish influences upon German culture and national interests*. He even argued that the 1935 Nuremberg Laws *had not regarded the Mischlinge as a danger to people and Reich. Since 1935 only the Jews had been involved in certain special regulations. . . . The German Catholics, indeed numerous Christians in Germany would be deeply hurt if these fellow Christians now would have to meet a fate similar to that of the Jews.*" Professor Lewy notes that: "The Bishops did make a few public pronouncements that criticized unjust treatment of foreign races, but these were couched in very general language, did not mention the Jews by name and might be considered equally directed at the Nazis' harsh policy toward the Slavic *Untermenschen* (subhumans). [ Lewy 282 and 289-291 ]

### Racial Identity

There is a real question whether the Catholic Bishops would have made any serious protest against the Nazi attack upon the Jews if the attack had been limited to non Christian Jews. But the racial ideology of the Nazis pushed them to include anyone who could be identified as *Jewish*. There were an estimated 300,000 half-Jews and

quarter-Jews in Germany. And an additional 100,000 in Austria. There were 50,000 Jewish converts. When the Nazi program was fully developed, it included all of these people indiscriminately with those who were *Jewish*, as a matter of religion, or who were *Semites*, a peculiar category, which basically meant that their parents or grandparents had practiced Judaism or otherwise been identified as Jews.

Even before their long exile in Europe, the Jews had become a mixture of races. The Arabs are closer to the original so-called *Semitic* racial stock. The 1890 Encyclopedia Britannica says of *Aryans* and *Semites* that: "Though the languages of these races are very different, they cannot be regarded as physically distinct and they are both without doubt branches of the Melanochroi, modified by admixture with the neighbouring races, the Mongols, the Australioids, and the Xanthochroi."

[ Encyclopedia Britannica, 9th edition II 697c **Asia** ] So much for racial purity.

A decree of September 1st 1941 required all Jews to wear a yellow Star of David when appearing in public. Some of the Catholic bishops tried to get permission for Jewish Catholics that they would not be required to wear the star when attending Church services, but permission was denied. When the mass deportation of German Jews began in October of 1941, the Catholic Jews of Frankfurt were included, contrary to earlier assurances. New laws required the dissolution of Catholic / Jewish marriages. Thus the bishops were forced to try and defend their congregations and their marriage laws against the sweeping anti-Jewish legislation of the government.

[ Lewy 286-288 ]

### Jewish Bolshevism

A major contributing factor to anti Jewish feeling was hostility to Communism and left wing socialism with which Germany was seriously threatened by Communist power from the outside and Communist subversion from inside. Individuals from Jewish backgrounds played major roles in the development of the Communist and Socialist parties of Europe and America. Socialism of one kind or another, including Zionism, displaced Judaism as the primary belief of many. The original Zionist ideology was a combination of nationalist socialism and secular Judaism--a Judaism which was completely stripped of its original faith and morals. They did not believe in God nor in sexual morality but they still believed in the re-establishment of the nation of Israel. It became their version of the socialist utopia.

By the end of the 19th century, orthodox religious Judaism had become the religion of a minority among those who were still somehow identified as *Jews*. *Reform* Judaism replaced orthodox Judaism. Many assimilated and ceased to identify themselves as Jewish. Many of these intermarried with Christians or adopted at least a nominal Christian identity. But many adopted *socialism* as their new faith. Much of the religious passion and belief, which was once part of Judaism, reappeared as faith in Socialism, Communism and Zionism.

The fight between left wing socialism and right wing socialism--between Communism and Fascism--dominated the politics of Europe after the First World War. It led to the civil war in Spain. It led to the rise of Mussolini in Italy and Adolph Hitler in Germany. Finally, it culminated in the murderous contest between Fascist Germany and Communist Russia. And Jewish Communist revolutionaries played a major role in the pro Communist and anti Fascist cause. There was some basis for the propaganda which identified Communism with the Jews. There is some similarity to the situation we are in today where it is hard to find a clear line between Moslems in general and the Moslem militants who threaten both America and Europe. And there are many on both sides who make no distinction. So there was some basis for the mixture of German Nationalism, Anti Communism and Anti Semitism which became the ideology of Hitler's Germany.

Hitler relied upon anti Communism as the major justification for his own military adventures and for the patriotic persecution of the Jews: *If international Jewry should succeed, in Europe or elsewhere, in precipitating nations into a world war, the result will not be the Bolshevization of Europe and a victory for Judaism, but the extermination of the Jewish race.* [ speech January 30 1939 Lewy 284 ] World War II did in fact bring about *the Bolshevization* of a large part of Europe and Asia as well as the near *extermination of the Jewish race* in Europe. Obviously, it was grossly unfair to identify the religious Jews of Europe with the Jewish Communists and Zionists who joined the attack upon religious Jews and Judaism as part of their attack upon religion. But that confusion has been perpetuated. Those who have long since discarded religious Judaism still claim a *Jewish* identity when it suits their politics or their finances. They treat their *Jewish* identity as a suit that you can wear or leave in the closet, depending upon the occasion.

#### *Jewish Anti Judaism*

The distinction that Hitler refused to make is a distinction that many others refuse to make. *Leftist* propaganda has often equated anti Stalinism with anti Semitism. If you believe that the Rosenbergs did in fact steal the secrets of the Atomic Bomb and pass them to the Soviet Union, you are accused of being an *anti Semite*. A similar situation has arisen today because of individuals and groups which persist in identifying themselves as *Jewish* even while they discard Jewish morality in respect to abortion. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg takes pride in her *Jewish* heritage while setting a high profile example of support for abortion. The same position is taken by the Union for Reform Judaism which represents some 900 synagogues in North America. They call themselves *Jewish* while they go along with the new holocaust, the extermination of embryo children by abortion. They in effect re-define *Judaism* to allow that which is intolerable to Orthodox Judaism. So those who must oppose them are therefore defined as *anti Semitic*. The same position was established long ago by the modern State of Israel. In common with the *National Socialists* of Germany and the *Bolsheviks* of Russia, the *Zionists* of Israel endorsed *free love*--sexual license--and the abortion which it requires. Thus modern *Semitism* is produced by the negation of Judaism.



Hitler's statement lumps together the so-called Jewish *race*, the old Jewish religion, and the new left wing socialist or *Bolshevik* faith which was the major antagonist of right wing socialists like Hitler and Mussolini. Hitler may have had a personal reason for his antagonism to the Jewish race. He suspected that he himself had a Jewish ancestor and he may have blamed his youthful tendency to homosexual pedophilia on this racial impurity. It was more likely due to his being sent to an all male boarding school at a young age. Like Alexander the Great and like Plato, his own debility pushed him into a power trip driven by a vision of a new world order--one from which Judeo-Christian sexual morality would have disappeared, and one in which peculiar people like himself could feel at home. There is a new version of this crusade which has been included in the attack upon the Moslems. The attack upon Moslem culture is in substantial part an attack upon the traditional sexual morality which they have preserved while America and Europe and Russia and Israel have discarded it. We demand that they acknowledge The Rights of Women, meaning especially that they allow abortion. How else can women be Liberated ? So once again Liberation is somehow entwined with mass murder.

#### Crimes of the Bolsheviks

Obviously, it is not fair to blame religious Jews for the actions of those who not only abandoned Judaism but attacked it in the name of their new religion. But fairness is not a characteristic of war time propaganda. The Communist Revolution was a major cause of World War II. And men and women of Jewish heritage played a major role in the rise of Communism. As terrible as were the crimes of Hitler and the Nazis, the crimes of Stalin and the Bolsheviks were as bad. Were arguably worse because of their much longer duration. The Communists were at it long before Hitler came along and they were still at it long after his death. The spotlight put upon the crimes of Hitler's Germany has allowed the crimes of Stalin's Russia to remain in the shadows. World War II is still presented as America the Good versus Evil Hitler while Uncle Joe Stalin and the Red Army are mentioned as a kind of historical footnote to the main bout. In fact, the war between Nazi Germany and Communist Russia was the main bout as witness the deaths of 12 million Russian soldiers and the fact that two thirds of the German casualties happened in the fighting on the eastern front.

The semi-religious passion which characterized militant socialism came from displaced Christianity and displaced Judaism. The radical attack upon society by these movements displayed an alienation which is still a virulent force in modern society. Stalin and Hitler are gone but the spirit which animated them is still around. The drive for a new world order from which the sexual morality once common to Christians, Jews, and Moslems has been expelled, is now driven by money as much as by militarism and it has achieved a success which would astonish the radical socialists of a bygone era. The radical attack upon the family which was basic to Socialism, Communism, Fascism, and Zionism--although often concealed or denied--has gone further than ever in modern times, with the assistance of the money-loving secular Christians.

## The Bishops and Race

The patriotism of the German bishops led them to go along with a pro German and pro Germany enthusiasm that implied a lack of enthusiasm for other races--at a minimum. An article on *Race* in an official Catholic handbook edited by Archbishop Grober said: *no people may be denied the right to maintain undisturbed their previous racial stock.* (Lewy 275) Of course it commonly happens that ethnic pride is presented as a positive value while people refuse to recognize the logical implications of that attitude. There is always a dark side to racial pride and national pride. Look at modern Israel. Driving the Palestinians into exile and refusing to allow them to return parallels the original program aimed at the Jews of Germany. Of course it also copies the original program of the colonial settlers of North and South America. The massacre of Palestinians has inevitably accompanied the mandate for Greater Israel. The alliance of American Imperialism with Zionism has fostered the growth of Moslem militarism aimed at America and its allies. It is predictable that the wars of the 21st century will come from that situation.

German Nationalism was justified by hostility to *Jewish Bolshevism*, which often meant Communist terrorism. Archbishop Grober's *Handbuch* refers to *the materialistic socialism founded primarily by the Jew Karl Marx*. Bolshevism is described as *an Asiatic state despotism, in point of fact in the service of a group of terrorists led by Jews*. And there are some half truths in this indictment. Which were mixed up with the patriotic explanation for the defeat of Germany in the First World War--that they were **stabbed in the back** by Jewish socialists. [ discussed in Shirer's *Rise and Fall* page 31 on ] Lewy quotes an article "in the paper of the Bavarian priests: *While the front made superhuman sacrifices and fought with admirable bravery against a world of enemies, the Jew Emil Barth equipped his Untermenschen [subhumans] with hand grenades and automatic pistols in order to attack the national defense from the rear.* " (Lewy 279 ) There were attempts at Communist Revolution in various places in Germany in the period following the defeat of Germany in World War I.

## Alibi Literature

Zahn and Lewy both note that much of what was written after the war about the relationship of the Catholic bishops to the policies of the Nazis constitutes *ALIBI LITERATURE*. Zahn 229: *A note of warning must be struck at the very beginning, however. Some of the references listed here have recently been exposed as unreliable in that their authors have actually doctored or distorted the texts of the documents they purport to present. the article by Hans Muller clearly shows that this caution would apply in particular to Neuhausler's book, which has come to be regarded as something of a "standard" source relating to the church's resistance to Hitler. It appears, then, that some of the works published in Germany during the years immediately following World War II may have been consciously prepared to present the religious opposition in a somewhat stronger and certainly more consistent light than was actually the case.*

Lewy shows that Cardinal Faulhaber's 1933 sermons in defense of the Old Testament were not in defense of the Jews, as Faulhaber spelled out in a subsequent "widely publicized letter" which his secretary was instructed to write: *The Cardinal in his Advent sermons of the previous year has defended the Old Testament of the Children of Israel but has not taken a position with regard to the Jewish question of today.* [ cf. Sermon of December 17, 1933 from Faulhaber *Judaism, Christianity and Germany* ] Lewy comments: "Faulhaber went out of his way to make clear that he was not concerned with defending his Jewish contemporaries. . . . It, therefore, is little short of falsification of history when Faulhaber's sermons in 1933 are hailed by one recent [circa 1964] Catholic writer as a *condemnation of the persecution of the Jews.*" (Lewy 276 ) The fabricated text which presented him as defending the Jews is still used to give him a character which he does not deserve. Faulhaber was later called *the lion of Munich*, and Von Galen was called *the lion of Munster*. But they were tame tabbies in respect to opposing German militarism and the killing of the Jews. They were Hitler's house cats, like the other clergymen of Germany. An early Christian writer characterized the bishops of his time as *lions in peace, deer in war*. The description still fits.

### *Kristallnacht*

It isn't just that the Catholic bishops did not speak out against the growing government violence against the Jews. Neither did they support the few who did speak out, leaving them isolated and vulnerable to government reprisal. On the morning after *Kristallnacht*, November 10th 1938, Provost Bernhard Lichtenberg publicly prayed for the Jews. He continued his daily public prayers for the Jews until he was arrested in October of 1941. He was released two years later but immediately re-arrested and shipped off to Dachau. He died November 5, 1943 on the way there. After the war, he was acknowledged as a Catholic martyr. Which avoids the question as to why he had to be, why he received no support when it would have counted for something. Professor Levy says, "Lichtenberg's protest remained a solitary act of witness. His bishops remained silent in the face of the burning temples and the first round-up of the Jews." [ Levy 284 ] And silent in defense of a solitary Catholic clergyman who did have the courage to speak out.

Although "Cardinal Faulhaber is said to have provided a truck for the Chief Rabbi of Munich so that he could save some of the religious objects from his synagogue before it was completely demolished " (Lewy 284) neither he nor the other Catholic bishops spoke out after the *Kristallnacht* attacks. Thus the campaign of violence against the Jews of Germany was effectively encouraged by what amounted to a silent sanction from the Catholic hierarchy. Even those who were privately opposed to the attack on the Jews could not bring themselves to publicly oppose anti Jewish programs which had substantial popular and patriotic support and the power of the government behind them. No doubt some of the Catholic clergy shared the anti Jewish attitudes of many of their countrymen, as Lewy documents.

## Catholic Resistance to Euthanasia

The Catholic bishops did oppose the euthanasia program of the Nazi government and with some success, as Professor Lewy relates in Chapter 9 of his book. And, while they deserve credit for doing that, it also raises the question as to why they did not similarly oppose the EUTHANASIA program aimed at the Jews.

The Nazi program to kill *incurables* began in September of 1939. At first the victims were shot. Later they were killed by poison gas in rooms disguised as showers. The victims were selected by committees of doctors on the basis of questionnaires sent to mental hospitals. Some 70,000 had been killed by August 1941 when the program was halted (at least officially ) because of popular protests which the Catholic bishops led. Some of the victims were mentally defective or incurably insane. Others were simply suffering from nervous breakdown. ( Lewy 263-264)

The program was supposed to be kept secret. The next of kin were told that the person had died of natural causes. But the existence of the program soon became well known. It could not remain a secret when so many German workers of all kinds such as doctors, nurses and truck drivers knew about it. People reacted with anger to family members being done away with at the state hospitals. Even Nazi party members reacted. After "rumors began to circulate that gravely wounded soldiers also would be killed," the protest became both popular and patriotic.

## von Galen's Sermon

In 1940 both Cardinal Bertram and Cardinal Faulhaber wrote letters of protest to the Reich Chancellery. Protestant churchmen also protested in private letters. But all of them were ignored. Then, in a sermon delivered on August 3rd 1941, Bishop Clement August von Galen of Munster denounced the euthanasia program as murderous and criminal. Professor Lewy relates: "The impact of this act of public protest was far-reaching. . . . Copies of the sermon were distributed in all corners of Germany and among the soldiers at the front." Despite their fury, Hitler's government was afraid to go after Bishop Galen because of the popularity of the protest to which he had given a voice. (Lewy 265) Even though unofficial euthanasia continued in some places, the program was stopped.

One striking fact about this successful campaign against the Nazi euthanasia program is how it succeeded despite the oppressive war time censorship imposed upon Germany. Despite their support for Hitler's government and the wars it launched, most of the Catholic diocesan papers had been shut down by the time Bishop Galen delivered his sermon. Of 435 Catholic periodicals being printed in 1934, only 27 were still being published by July 1941, most of them professional journals. (Lewy 148) And yet copies of Bishop Galen's sermon not only circulated throughout Germany they even reached the war front, becoming in effect an underground press capable of forcing Hitler's government to change course.

Lewy concludes: "Here was an example of the strength, power and influence of public opinion in Hitler's state ruled by brute force, and that at a time when the Fuhrer stood at the zenith of his military successes. Had German public opinion shown a similar response against other crimes of the Nazi regime committed on an even greater scale, such as the extermination of the Jews of Europe, the results might well have been similarly telling. . . . But the large majority of the people who had been outraged when their sons and daughters, brothers and sisters had been put to death, failed to react in the same manner when their Jewish neighbors were deported and eventually killed in the very gas chambers designed for and first tried out in the euthanasia program. " (Lewy 267)

### Popular Christianity

The major difference is that "The bishops knew that they had the public behind them. " They were actually pushed to oppose the euthanasia program by popular and patriotic outrage which, in this case, coincided with the moral imperative. But "when Hitler proceeded to *The Final Solution of the Jewish Question*, no such sentiments showed themselves, and the episcopate therefore hesitated to risk a clash with the regime. " (Lewy 267) The fundamental moral fallacy of **popular** Christianity and the *people's church* is shown by this episode. The leaders of the popular church must confine their crusades to popular moral causes. The Will of the People determines what is moral. That is, the shifting opinions of the mob limit morality to what is popular. The moral is defined by that which is patriotic. So it is immoral to euthanize badly wounded soldiers but healthy Jews fall into a different category.

### Rescuing the Husbands

There was another instance in which the Nazi government was forced to back off. In February 1943 the Gestapo rounded up Christian non-Aryans in mixed marriages, including 6000 in Berlin. But they were released after their spouses publicly protested outside the detention center. "The German episcopate, after the downfall of the Nazi regime, has taken credit for preventing the compulsory divorce of mixed marriages. There is strong reason to assume that the lion's share of the credit belongs to the courageous women of Berlin who, in the last days of February 1943, dared to defy the seemingly all-powerful Gestapo and caused the Nazis to fear similar outbursts in the future if they moved to break up these marriages by divorce or deportation." (Lewy 289)

We are taught to believe that Hitler can only be brought down by military violence. If the bomb in the brief case misses him, the only alternative is the overwhelming violence of the Russians and the Americans targeting the whole of Germany. The rape of a million women and the obliteration of German cities and towns is incidental to this noble and necessary task. But here is a dramatic instance where people showing moral backbone and bearing Christian witness stopped the Nazi machine and forced it to change course. How different the history of the 1940s would have been if more people had discovered that Spirit of Courage which is necessary to Bear Christian Witness against Evil. Which is not afraid to stand in a minority.

We are taught to believe that we must rely upon secrecy and stealth to fight against the forces of darkness. But the one time the German bishops effectively opposed Hitler, they did it by abandoning private letters and communicating openly and courageously. How else can you reach a large number of people ? How will they have the courage to act if you don't have to courage to come out in the open and stand up for what you believe ? That is *Christian Witness*. It is the method that Jesus Christ showed us and the method we are called to use if we pretend to be *Christians*. It succeeds because the Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ stands with us. We need not rely upon the treacherous demons of secrecy and stealth and that *underground* violence which is indistinguishable from terrorism.

#### What the Bishops Knew and When They Knew It

The German attack upon the Soviet Union, which began June 22nd 1941, soon led to the intensification of the Nazi extermination campaign against the Jews of Europe. Special military detachments systematically machine gunned Russian Jewish civilians, men, women and children. Despite war time censorship and strict orders to keep silent, soldiers returning from the eastern front witnessed things they could not easily forget, and rumors about what was happening began to circulate in Germany. "By the end of 1941 the first news had also trickled back about the fate of the deported German Jews who had been shot by mobile killing detachments near Riga and Minsk. In December 1941 the first death camp began operations near Lodz. Sobibor, Treblinka and Aushwitz went into operation in the course of the year 1942. By the end of 1942 more than 100,000 German Jews had been sent to their death in the east, and the vague rumors about their fate had been replaced now by hard and persistent reports that included details of the mass gassings." [ Lewy 287-288 ]

And the Catholic bishops had better information than the average citizen. "In August 1942 Colonel Kurt Gerstein, who had joined the S.S. to investigate the stories of extermination for himself, tried to tell the Papal Nuncio in Berlin about a gassing he had witnessed near Lublin. When Monsignor Orsenigo refused to receive him, he told his story to Dr. Winter, the legal advisor of Bishop Preysing of Berlin, and to numbers of other persons. He also requested that the report be forwarded to the Holy See. During the same period other reports about the extermination of the Jews reached the bishops through Catholic officers serving in Poland and Russia. For a long time Dr. Joseph Muller, an officer in Canaris's Military Intelligence Service and also a confidant of Cardinal Faulhaber, had kept the episcopate well-informed about the systematic atrocities committed in Poland. Another source of information was Dr. Hans Globke, a Catholic and a high official in the Ministry of the Interior entrusted with handling racial matters. It is, then, clear that by the end of the year 1942 at the latest, the German episcopate was possessed of quite accurate knowledge of the horrible events unfolding in the east." [ Lewy 287-288 ]

But the bishops took no effective action: "Unlike the case of the extermination of Germans in the euthanasia program, where the episcopate did not mince words and succeeded in putting a stop to the killings, the bishops here played it safe. The effect of their public protests on the Final Solution consequently was nil. These very general statements neither changed the policies of the government nor inspired any change in the behavior of German Catholics. The trains shipping Jews to their doom continued to roll; the factories where Jewish slave laborers were worked to death kept on consuming their victims; the guards maintained their stations and saw to it that none escaped. Close to half the population of the Greater German Reich (43.1 per cent in 1939) was Catholic, and even among the S.S., despite all pressures to leave the Church, almost a fourth (22.7 per cent on December 31, 1938) belonged to the Catholic faith. Yet their bishops might just as well not have said a word on the killing of innocents. The machinery of extermination continued to function smoothly, with everyone conscientiously doing his assigned job. The episcopate had repeatedly issued orders to exclude from the sacraments Catholics who engaged in dueling or who agreed to have their bodies cremated. The word that would have forbidden the faithful, on pain of excommunication, to go on participating in the massacre of the Jews was never spoken. And so Catholics went on participating conscientiously, along with other Germans." [ Lewy 292-293 ]

The refusal of Monsignor Orsenigo, the Papal Nuncio in Berlin, to receive Colonel Gerstein and hear his story points up the question as to what the Vatican knew--or didn't want to know--about what was really happening to the Jews in the German occupied territory.

### The Complicity of the Bishops

It has to be said in defense of the Catholic bishops of Germany that they apparently never intended to be a part of the mass murder of the Jews. They became a part of it because of their failure to oppose it. By the time they did make some gestures of opposition it was too little and too late.

They did go along with German patriotism and German nationalism and German militarism. And all of these things led to the exclusion and exile and eventually the systematic killing of the Jews.

They also had an antique attitude towards Judaism which was perhaps more understandable and justifiable than it seems to us now. Modern society takes it for granted that we are all to be assimilated into one big pudding. That we will share one another's food and marry one another's daughters. We fully accept *the Jews* while assuming that they will discard Judaism except for a few festivals and customs. Most of us are only nominal Christians so we can easily tolerate one another and easily tolerate those who remain nominal Jews. None of us have any serious belief so why should we quarrel ?

But old fashioned and strictly orthodox Jews kept themselves strictly apart from Gentile society, from the *goyim*. They would not eat our food nor even sit down to eat with us. Nor would they inter marry with us. That attitude persists in a perverted way among the Zionists of modern Israel. They abandoned traditional Jewish faith and morals, but they still deny the *right of return* to Jews who have become Christians. If you are an atheist and a socialist and like to hang out at topless beaches, you will fit right in. But if you have become a Christian, you won't.

The attitude of exclusion towards the Palestinianins, even the ones who once lived there--especially the ones who once lived there--is obviously the trigger for the wars with the Moslems which the west is very likely to lose. The Palestinianins have lost their *right of return* also and their exile has been followed by massacres.

Those who took their Catholic faith seriously, such as the bishops of Germany, had never accepted the idea that society could be anything but Christian. Or that the Jews could be tolerated except as a peculiar people who dwelt apart in special enclaves. And the orthodox Jews themselves did everything to maintain that separation. That partly explains why the bishops offered so little resistance to the roundup and exile of the German Jews. They did not intend the killing of the Jews and that killing took place outside of Germany and under military secrecy. It soon ceased to be a secret of course.

What confused the issue more was that so many former Jews had embraced socialism and even Bolshevik Communism as if it were the *new Judaism*. It clearly did represent a mortal danger to Christian society, as the persecutions of Christians in Russia had shown.

We may justly condemn the German bishops for going along with Hitler but we must also recognize that Stalin appeared to them as the only alternative. And for Worldly Christians, as for the world in general, those were the choices: Stalin or Hitler, Communism or Fascism. They had long since lost track of the alternative which Jesus showed us.

### WHAT DID THE POPE DO ?

In chapter 10 of his book, Professor Lewy examines what Pius XI and Pius XII did--and failed to do--in response to the Nazi programs aimed at the Jews: He presents a dramatic instance which illuminates the question: "In April 1933 a communication reached Pope Pius XI from Germany expressing grave concern over the Nazis' anti-Semitic aims and requesting the Supreme Pontiff to issue an encyclical on the Jewish question. The letter was written by the philosopher, Dr. Edith Stein, a Jewish convert to Catholicism and later known as Sister Teresia Benedicta a Cruce of the Order of the Carmelites. Edith Stein's request was not granted. Nine years later, in August 1942, the Gestapo removed her from a Dutch monastery, where she had sought refuge, and sent her to Auschwitz to be gassed. The debate whether or not



the Papacy could have prevented or should at least have vigorously protested the massacre of the Jews of Europe, of which Edith Stein was one of the victims, has been going on ever since and has acquired new vigor as a result of Hochhuth's play *Der Stellvertreter--The Deputy*," a 1962 play about Pius XII. [ Lewy 295 ]

### Pius XI

In fact, 1933 was the year that Pope Pius XI signed a *Concordat* with Hitler's government. Monsignor Pacelli, later Pope Pius XII, signed for him as the Papal Secretary of State. A few months before, at a diplomatic reception, the Pope had spoken with approval of Adolph Hitler as the first European statesman to join him in open disavowal of Bolshevism. [ Zahn 211-212 as cited earlier ] But Hitler's government immediately began violating the terms of the *Concordat*. In March 1937, Pius XI wrote the encyclical letter *Mit Brennender Sorge--With Burning Sorrow*--which protested against the violations of the *Concordat* by the new German government and which also criticized the racial pride that was a basic component of Nazi ideology. But the Pope still made no mention of the blatant anti-Semitism which was the cutting edge of Nazi racism. He did not criticize the new anti Jewish legislation.

Shirer page 234 notes that Pope Pius XII defended the *Concordat* in an address to the Sacred College on June 2 1945, even while he denounced National Socialism as *the arrogant apostasy from Jesus Christ, the denial of His doctrine and of His Work of redemption, the cult of violence, the idolatry of race and blood, the overthrow of human liberty and dignity*. Which sentiments would have done the Pope more credit had he not delayed expressing them until after Italy and Germany had been defeated and destroyed. A fugitive Mussolini was killed April 26th 1945 and Hitler committed suicide in his bunker on April 29th as Russian artillery shells rained down on Berlin. The millions whose lives were cut short because of *National Socialism* would have appreciated a more timely advisement of what it really stood for. Who knew that better than Pope Pius XII ? Had it really taken him 12 years to find it out ?

Professor Lewy notes several documents which show the unwillingness of the Vatican to confront this most pressing and urgent issue: "Nor was anti-Semitism mentioned in the statement of the Roman Congregation of Seminaries and Universities, issued on April 13, 1938, and attacking as erroneous eight theses taken from the arsenal of Nazi doctrine. On September 7, 1938, during a reception for Catholic pilgrims from Belgium, Pius XI is said to have condemned the participation of Catholics in anti-Semitic movements and to have added that Christians, the spiritual descendants of the Patriarch Abraham were *spiritually Semites*. But this statement was omitted by all the Italian papers, including *L'Osservatore Romano*, from their account of the Pope's address." [ Lewy 296 ] Neither the Vatican nor the German Catholic bishops spoke out against the beginning of the all out Nazi attack upon the Jews which was conspicuously signalled by *Kristallnacht, the Night of Broken Glass*, on November 9th 1938. Whatever help was given privately, they shirked the primary duty of Christians to bear public witness against conspicuous evil.

Had he lived longer, it is possible that Pius XI would have gone further in opposing the anti Jewish policies of the Nazis as they became progressively more outrageous. But he died in the spring of 1939 and was replaced by Cardinal Eugenio Pacelli--Pope Pius XII. Cardinal Pacelli's pro-German sentiments were well-known. He had been the Vatican ambassador to Bavaria and had been personally threatened by Communist hooligans when they were engaging in street fights with the Nazi hooligans in the contest for power in Germany. Cardinal Tardini said that *Pius XII was by nature meek and almost timid. He was not born with the temperament of a fighter. In this he was different from his great predecessor.* [ quoted by Lewy 297 ] He had the character of a diplomat, like many in the Vatican service. That is a very different character from that which is required for someone to *Bear Witness to the Truth*, openly and courageously--which is what the evils of Fascism required quite as much as the evils of Communism.

It is notable that Pope Pius XII did not speak out against the German invasion of Catholic Poland. That may be excused as necessary *diplomacy* or condemned as cowardice but it obviously did not originate in *antisemitism*.

By the time Pius XII became Pope in the spring of 1939, his predecessor had already committed the Vatican to a policy of complicity with Mussolini's *Fascist* Italy and its major *Fascist* ally, Hitler's Germany. Pius XI blessed the Italian army on its way to Ethiopia, just like the first Popes sanctioned the Roman and Frankish armies setting out to forcibly convert the *barbarians*. He could hardly have refused without first repudiating the long Patriotic History of the Imperial Church. Pope Pius XI actually did refer to the invasion of Ethiopia *UNJUST WAR* phrase in a speech to some nurses. But then he allowed his underlings, including Eugenio Pacelli, to delete what he had said before his remarks were published in *L'Osservatore romano*. [ David Kertzer, *The Pope and Mussolini* 214-216 ]

#### Fascism versus Communism

It is arguably the case that Mussolini's black-shirted *Fascists* were the only realistic alternative to the Communists in Italy and that Hitler's brown-shirted *National Socialists* were the only realistic alternative to the Communists in Germany. In fact, the street brawls between the *National Socialists* and the left wing *Socialists*, especially the German Communists, were a kind of war which brought the *Nazis* to power. [ Shirer page 165 describes the street battles between the Nazis and the Communists in which dozens were killed and hundreds injured. ] In Italy in the early 20s, armed conflicts between the *Fascists* and the *Reds* brought Mussolini to power.

The same was true in Spain. In the 1930s, the Catholic Church supported the Fascist rebellion against the Communist government of Spain. That government had violently attacked the institutions of the Church and obviously intended to do much more when it got the chance. *Fascism* came to power in Spain, Italy and Germany with the support of the Catholics, because it was the only alternative to *Communism*--or so they believed--and, in terms of *realpolitik*, they were right.

The violent attack upon the Catholic Church which began during the French Revolution continued thereafter with Communists and Socialists in place of the Freemasons. Karl Marx applauded the Paris Commune and the murder of the Archbishop of Paris. The Russian Revolution gave these anti Church forces a new power base. More than half of the first Soviet government were ex Jews who had a double animus against the Church. The enduring antagonism between the Catholic Church and Communist Russia is illustrated by the almost successful attempt to assassinate Pope John Paul II in May 1981 by a Communist agent.

Although Communism was in theory hostile to all religion--to Judaism as much as to Christianity, there has always been a special bias against Christianity. Among Jewish Communists, there is a tendency to soften their opposition to religion where Judaism is concerned and to intensify it where Christianity is concerned. The Nazis were basically as hostile to the Christian Church as the Communists were, but they disguised this animus until they had come to power. Europe in the 1930s was dividing along the line of Communist versus Fascist. And so there was a strong undercurrent of Christian Fascism versus Jewish Communism in the wars that engulfed Europe. There is a certain inevitability in the recognition by Pope Pius XI of the new Nazi government. The Pope correctly perceived that Communism was a major threat to the Catholic Church. Unfortunately, he did not perceive that an alliance with the Fascists was not the way to deal with it. That limited perception is a basic characteristic of the Worldly Church which has always relied upon the power of the State, and which has to rely upon it. [ see *The Church of the Empire.* ]

#### Anti Jewish Legislation in Germany, Italy and France

Professor Lewy documents the fact that there was a real sympathy in both the German Catholic Church and in the Vatican for anti Jewish legislation-- "Bishop Hudal, the head of the German Church in Rome, said that the Nuremberg laws were a necessary measure of self-defense against the influx of foreign elements. The Church in her own legislation, the Bishop contended, had held a radical position on the Jewish question *until the walls of the Ghetto had been torn down in the 19th century by the liberal state first and not by the Church* Consequently, from the point of view of the Church, there could be no objection to laws containing discriminatory provisions for Jews. *The principles of the modern state* [ based on the rule of equal treatment before the law ] *have been created by the French Revolution and are not the best from the standpoint of Christianity and nationality.* " [ Lewy 281 ]

Even when the Vatican criticized Nazi legislation, the criticism stopped far short of condemning laws aimed at Jews: "In 1934 the influential Jesuit magazine *Civiltà Cattolica*, published in Rome and traditionally close to Vatican thinking, noted with regret that the anti-Semitism of the Nazis *did not stem from the religious convictions nor the Christian conscience . . . but from their desire to upset the order of religion and society*. The *Civiltà Cattolica* added that *we could understand them, or even praise them, if their policy were restricted within acceptable bounds of defense against the Jewish organizations and institutions*. . . . In 1936 the same journal published another article on the subject, emphasizing that opposition to Nazi racialism should not be interpreted as a rejection of anti-Semitism, [ by which he means anti Judaism ] and arguing--as the magazine had done since 1890--that the Christian world (though without un-Christian hatred) must defend itself against the Jewish threat by suspending the civic rights of Jews and returning them to the ghettos." [ Lewy 296 ] The same was true in Italy: "The Vatican's criticisms of the new Italian racial legislation introduced in 1938 centered upon those parts which conflicted with the canon law's provisions concerning marriage. When Italian theaters and other public facilities in December 1938 began to exclude Jews, *L'Osservatore Romano* complained that these measures no longer merely aimed at the segregation of the Jews, but smacked of un-Christian persecution." [ Lewy 297 ]

The same attitude appeared in respect to the new laws of Vichy France: "That the Holy See had no intrinsic objection to a policy of subjecting the Jews to discriminatory legislation became again clear when in June 1941 Marshal Petain's Vichy government introduced a series of *Jewish statutes*. . . . Leon Berard, the Vichy Ambassador at the Holy See, was able to report to Petain, after lengthy consultations with high Church officials, that the Vatican did not consider such laws in conflict with Catholic teaching. The Holy See merely counseled that no provisions on marriage be added to the statutes and *that the precepts of justice and charity be considered in the application of the law*." [ Levy 298 ]

#### The Silence of the Vatican

But of course the Nazi programs aimed at the Jews soon went beyond the boundaries of discriminatory legislation. And the Vatican, with its diplomatic network, heard all about it, long before the rest of the world. But it wasn't that easy to isolate the question of what was being done to the Jews from the context of the World War then raging. Italy was fighting for national survival, and losing, and the German military had taken responsibility for the fighting in parts of Italy. American diplomats tried to persuade Pius XII to denounce the Polish killing centers [ Lewy 298-299 ] but that

would have pushed the Pope into making propaganda against the Italian war effort in effect. In 1942 the American ambassador to the Vatican forwarded "a memorandum of the Jewish Agency for Palestine that reported mass executions of Jews in Poland and occupied Russia, and told of deportations to death camps from Germany, Belgium, Holland, France, Slovakia, etc." The Vatican replied that "it had not been possible to verify the accuracy of the severe measures reportedly taken against the Jews but that *the Holy See is taking advantage of every opportunity offered in order to mitigate the suffering of non-Aryans.*

#### Discreet Inquiries

The Vatican did make discreet diplomatic inquiries. In Berlin, the Papal Nuncio Orsenigo asked the German government about the reports of mass shootings and about the fate of deported Jews. Professor Lewy describes the report he found in the German archives which says that "the Nuncio had made his representation with *some embarrassment and without emphasis.* . . . State Secretary Wizsacker told Monsignor Orsenigo on another such occasion that the Vatican had so far conducted itself *very cleverly* in these matters and that he would hope for a continuation of this policy. The Nuncio took the hint and *pointed out that he had no desire to touch it.* Himmler, when received by Count Ciano on his visit to Rome in October 1942, praised the *discretion* of the Vatican." [ Lewy 199 ] As indicated by his refusal to receive Colonel Kurt Gerstein, it appears that the Vatican's man in Berlin was less than eager to learn the full story as to what was happening to the Jews in the Nazi-occupied countries of Europe. And there has to be a real doubt as to how much his boss really wanted to know. Pope Pius XII also avoided public protest about the Nazi persecution of the Catholic Church in Poland where many priests were killed. The silence of the Pope about the murder of Polish priests was obviously not due to *antisemitism*. It helps to acquit him of that charge, while it helps to convict him of something else. Was it necessary *diplomacy* or bureaucratic cowardice ?

That was the policy of the Vatican. Cautious diplomacy and humanitarian aid behind the scenes. There seems to be no doubt that they did do a great deal behind the scenes to help the Jews. They wrote private letters to the authorities. But they kept silent. If the Vatican is to be regarded as a mini state, it was perhaps necessary for it to try and preserve its posture of *neutrality* by maintaining a public silence, just as Switzerland did or Sweden. But the claim to represent the Christian Church is not compatible with the failure to **bear Christian Witness** against evil, however inconvenient that might be at times. Discreet diplomacy and covert humanitarian operations cannot excuse the failure to follow the method of Jesus Christ and his first followers by those who still claim to be his followers. Bearing Witness to the Truth and Openly Confronting Evil are Christian Obligations which transcend any attempt to make pragmatic or diplomatic calculations as to how far we can go along with Hitler. That is what is wrong with the Worldly Church. At the most critical times it discovers that it has abandoned the principles which real Christians must have to deal with such moral horrors as the Nazis of Germany and the Bolsheviks of Russia. *Neutrality* doesn't get it. Neither does joining one side or the other.

### The Round-Up In Rome

Whatever may have been happening to the Jews in Germany and in the rest of German occupied Europe, the Vatican soon had to deal with the Nazi round-up of the Jews in Rome itself. In 1943, "the Jewish community was told by the Nazis that unless it raised 50 kilograms of gold . . . within 36 hours, 300 hostages would be taken. When it turned out that the Jews themselves could only raise 35 kilograms, the Chief Rabbi, Israel Zolli, asked for and received a loan from the Vatican treasury to cover the balance. The Pope approved of this transaction." Then, in October 1943 the Nazis began rounding up the Jews of Rome. The Vatican responded with a letter signed by Bishop Hudal, the head of the German Church in Rome which was delivered to General Stahel, the German military commander of Rome: *I have just been informed by a high Vatican office in the immediate circle of the Holy Father that the arrests of Jews of Italian nationality have begun this morning. In the interest of the good relations which have existed until now between the Vatican and the high German military command . . . I would be very grateful if you would give an order to stop these arrests in Rome and its vicinity right away; I fear that otherwise the Pope will have to make an open stand which will serve the anti-German propaganda as a weapon against us.* Ernst von Weizsacker, the German ambassador to the Vatican, reported to Berlin that "the Vatican was upset, especially since the deportations had taken place, as it were, right under the Pope's window." [ Lewy 300-302 ]

"Contrary to Hudal's and Weizsacker's apprehensions, however, the man in the Vatican palace remained silent. On October 18, over 1000 Roman Jews--more than two-thirds of them women and children--were shipped off to the killing center of Auschwitz. Fourteen men and one woman returned alive. About 7000 Roman Jews--that is, 7 out of 8--were able to elude their hunters by going into hiding. More than 4000, with the knowledge and approval of the Pope, found refuge in the numerous monasteries and houses of religious orders in Rome, and a few dozen were sheltered in the Vatican itself. The rest were hidden by their Italian neighbors, among whom the anti-Jewish policy of the fascists had never been popular. But for the Germans, overwhelmingly relieved at having averted a public protest by the Pope, the fact that a few thousand Jews had escaped the net was of minor significance. On October 28 Ambassador Weizsacker was able to report: *Although under pressure from all sides, the Pope has not let himself be drawn into any demonstrative censure of the deportation of Jews from Rome . . . he has done everything he could in this delicate matter not to strain relations with the German government and German circles in Rome.*"

the failure to speak out

No doubt it was a *delicate matter* in the context of the complicated politics of the situation. But the obvious question is how the fellow who claims to be the head of the *Christian Church* ever got into the position where he had to go along, as a matter of public appearances at least, with the round up of the Jews of Rome to be shipped off to death camps. How could he possibly fail to speak out on such a glaring moral

issue ? It commonly happens that diplomats and heads of state keep quiet about horrors--like the silence of the Americans about what Stalin did in the Ukraine or what the Red Army did to the women in its march across Europe. But if you bill yourself as the head of the Christian Church, you must have a different standard altogether. That is why, whatever excuses there might be for the Vatican as an institution and whatever sympathy there might be for the extremely difficult situation of the Pope, there really can be no good excuse for his silence. It is arguable that he did the best he could within the severe limitations of his situation. But the question is how the Church ever got into that situation. It had to go along with Hitler because it had to go along with Mussolini. It had to go along with him because it had gone along with Caesar for 1600 years and didn't know what else to do. That was its real shame. It is the fundamental shame of Secular Christianity.

Recently, new documents have been turned up which show how hard Pope Pius XII *secretly* worked to try and get escape visas for Jews whom America and Canada etc. refused to accept. [ see [www.ptwf.org](http://www.ptwf.org) ] It is good evidence that his heart was in the right place. And even his head. But his Church was not in the right place when millions of Catholics carried out the killings decreed by Hitler and Mussolini, while their bishops assured them that they were doing their Christian duty. And it does not answer the question as to why the Catholic Church did so little to oppose the policy of forcing the Jews into exile from Germany and Italy.

"When an Italian law of December 1, 1943, provided for the internment of all Jews in concentration camps and for the confiscation of their property, *L'Osservatore Romano* criticized these measures as too harsh. But Weizsacker reassured Berlin that these *commentaries are not official. They have not been broadcast by the Vatican radio.* During the following months searches for Jews took place periodically. The Pope, continuing acts of charity, maintained his silence." [ Lewy 302 ] *Charity* is commendable, but it is no substitute for justice, and no substitute for the Courage to Bear Witness. The charity shown to aborted women is no substitute for the courageous witness which could have prevented the abortion in the first place.

#### The Church in France

The silence of the Pope is contrasted with the public statements of protest by some of the French clergy in opposition to the round up of the Jews in German-occupied France. Of course there was a basic difference in situation in that the French clergy could count on the support of French patriotism when they opposed the policies of the German occupiers of France. Whereas the German bishops were silenced by the pressure of popular patriotism as were the bishops of Italy, including the Pope. Some of the clergy of the German occupied countries showed courage in opposing Nazi policies. But the real test of any Christian is whether he will stand up for morality when the tide of popularity and patriotism is running the other way. That is the test the German bishops flunked. It is the test that the clergy of the Worldly Church always flunk.

The test of courage for Christian clergy in Russia was not whether they opposed Hitler and the Nazis but whether they opposed Stalin and the Bolsheviks. The question about the bishops of America is not whether they opposed the racial extermination policies of Hitler's Germany. Of course they did--what did it cost them? The question is whether they opposed the racial extermination policies of the American government when it dropped bombs on the civilian populations of Japan and Germany.

Some of the French clergy did speak out publicly and at some risk to themselves. The Bishop of Montauban wrote a pastoral epistle which was read from the pulpits in his diocese and which said in part: *Scenes of indescribable suffering and horror are abroad in our land . . . In Paris, by tens of thousands, Jews are being subjected to the most barbarous treatment. In our district we are witnessing wretched spectacles of families being uprooted, of men and women being treated like beasts and later deported . . . to face the greatest perils. . . . The current anti-Semitic measures are a violation of human dignity and the sacred rights of the individual and the family. May God comfort and strengthen those who are persecuted.* The Bishop was eventually deported also for his outspokenness. But where else does a Christian clergyman belong in such a situation? [quoted by Philip Friedman, page 50 of *Their Brothers' Keepers* 1978]

In pastoral letters, Cardinal Gerlier called upon French Catholics to refuse to surrender to the authorities the hidden children of deported Jews. In July 1942, the Catholic bishops sent a declaration to Marshal Petain which said: *We are profoundly shocked by the mass arrests and the inhuman treatment of the Jews at the Velodrome d'Hiver.*" [Friedman 51] This was a bicycle stadium in Paris where 13,000 Jews were imprisoned in July 1942 before they were sent to the death camps. But they were sent to the death camps, despite the protest of the bishops. Altogether some 76,000 French Jews were deported and sent to Nazi death camps.

#### listening to the still small voice

There were individuals, clergy and lay people, who stepped forward with courage and did their best to rescue those *appointed to die*, as Proverbs 31.8-9 instructs us: *Open your mouth for the speechless, In the cause of all who are appointed to die. Open your mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.* A recent book by Richard Holbrooke, *Diplomat Heroes of the Holocaust*, tells the story of Aristides de Sousa Mendes, the Portuguese consul general in Bordeaux, France, from 1938 to July 1940. In May 1940 he had to deal with crowds of refugees from the German invasion of France, camping in the streets and parks and desperate to get visas which would allow them to escape into Spain and Portugal. But Mendes was up against an absolute prohibition by Salazar, the dictator of Portugal, against issuing transit visas to refugees and especially to Jews. After agonizing over his decision, Mendes abruptly decided to give all of them visas and went to the border himself to insure that the visas were honored.



Soon thereafter he was discharged from his diplomatic position, and returned to Portugal. With 12 kids to support, he had to sell his family estate. And he died poor. He told his son that he had heard a voice--*that of his conscience or of God*--telling him what he must do. [ book reviewed by Peter Steinfels in New York Times of February 3rd 2007 ]

Many French Jews--many Jewish children, especially--were hidden away and rescued from the Nazis. The widow of Alfred Dreyfus found refuge in a French convent. But the question has to be asked how the Nazi occupiers of France could so easily have rounded up 13,000 Jews in Paris itself and then shipped them off to the death camps, despite the opposition of so many French Catholics. A basic reason is that Secular Christians are taught to rely upon military means. So once the French army was defeated and retreating they no longer had an effective answer to Nazism. The French Underground blew up some military convoys, but mainly the French had to wait patiently for the allied armies to arrive. They had no experience with the truly Christian resistance which relies upon the weapons of the spirit. They never heard or never understood what Saint Paul says in 2 Corinthians 10.3-4 and Ephesians 6.10-18. The fundamental moral problem is the false faith of the Worldly Church which teaches us to rely upon the state and its military forces to confront evil. When they fail to do it--when they become evil themselves--Secular Christians are left helpless. The only answer to Hitler is Stalin. Stalin and his allies. Who look like the good guys only by comparison. They didn't murder quite so many. And they won the war.

#### War and Genocide

It is the historical fact that those who go along with war end up going along with genocide. The Christian clergy of America sanctioned genocide when they sanctioned the wars of America. What happened in the Philippines is only one example. Professor Lewy has a revealing quote of what the Pope said--"when Dr. Edoardo Senatru, the correspondent of *L'Osservatore Romano* in Berlin, asked Pius XII whether he would not protest the extermination of the Jews, the Pope is reported to have answered, *Dear friend, do not forget that millions of Catholics serve in the German armies. Shall I bring them into conflicts of conscience ?* (Lewy 303-304) In hindsight, that question seems like a no brainer. Was it really so unthinkable that Catholics be told not to fight for Hitler ? Or told not to fight for Mussolini ? Isn't that exactly what was wanted ? Wasn't a *conflict of conscience* exactly what every Christian clergyman should have done his best to produce ?

Of course the Pope can't *bring* these German Catholic soldiers *into conflicts of conscience* while they are swapping shots with the Evil Communist Soldiers of Joe Stalin and his Dupes, the Misguided American Allies, while they are laying down their lives to Save the World from Bolshevism. Which they didn't of course. They made a major contribution to the Victory of Communism in Europe and Joe Stalin and Bolshevism both died in bed of old age. The time to bring them into *conflicts of conscience* is before they ever become soldiers, and long before the war begins.

Had they and other so-called Christians been brought into *conflicts of conscience* before the First World War began, there need not have been a Second World War. Without the First World War, the Bolsheviks would not have come to power in Russia, Mussolini would not have come to power in Italy and the Nazis would not have come to power in Germany. Without the war, the Nazis could not have carried out their attack upon the Jews of Germany. *Of all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these: "It might have been."* But the time to instruct people about the primitive Christian morality which is opposed to war is now, is the sooner the better, is better late than never. Of course they have to learn it themselves before they venture to instruct others.

In a curious way the Pope's argument echoes an argument of Curate Roth, "an early supporter of the Hitler movement who later became an official in the Nazi Ministry of Ecclesiastical Affairs " justifying the elimination of the Jews from public life: *If in the course of proceeding against the Jews as a race some good and harmless Jews, with whom immorality because of inheritance is latent, will have to suffer together with the guilty ones, this is not a violation of Christian love of one's neighbor as long as the Church recognizes also the moral justification of war, for example, where many more 'innocents' than 'guilty' have to suffer.* (Lewy 272) Since the Christian churches of Europe and America can justify 60 million killed in World War II, two thirds of them civilians, many of them young children why does the killing of 5 million Jews present a moral problem ? Write it off as *collateral damage*. So what if they were innocent ? That's war. Since we cannot raise any serious moral objection to war, how can we raise an objection to genocide ? Aren't they basically one and the same ? Yes. In Israel today the killing of Palestinian kids is justified as an inevitable byproduct of the necessary retaliation raids. It is not really possible to take *an eye for an eye* without sometimes taking out the other eye. Nor can you realistically take a *tooth for a tooth* while avoiding the other teeth. As Gandhi once said *an eye for an eye* soon leads to a world of blind men. Which is just why Jesus teaches us a better doctrine in Matthew 5.38-39.

### Misplaced Courage

One of the saddest things about the spectacle presented by World War II Germany is how much courage and heroic sacrifice was used up in the service of the evil one by people who saw themselves as doing their Christian duty. It is the blindness of their secular Christian faith which is so appalling. Millions of young men, nearly all of them *Christian* in some nominal way, fought and died to establish and defend the empire of the crooked cross.

## the priests of Dachau

The Catholic bishops and priests of Germany did defy the Nazis when the status of the Catholic Church was attacked. Many priests suffered the same fate as the Jews they did not defend. Lewy writes that "The concentration camp Dachau, when reached by American troops on April 26, 1945, held 326 German Catholic priests. A still larger number had passed through the camp, had died in it of starvation or disease, or had been murdered there. Soon thereafter Pope Pius XII invoked these and other acts of persecution to show that the Catholic Church in Germany had strongly resisted the Nazi regime. In his letter to the Bavarian bishops in August 1945, the Pope paid tribute to *those millions of Catholics, men and women of every class*, who, loyal to their bishops, had fought against the demonic powers that ruled Germany. The German bishops, too, ever since the downfall of the Third Reich, have expressed their admiration for Catholics like Provost Lichtenberg, Father Delp and others who died resisting the Nazis, and they have linked the Church to these martyrs. Yet there was a time when resistance to the Nazi state was not only discouraged by the Church, but condemned. Catholics who actively fought against the Hitler regime were rebels not only against the state, but against their ecclesiastical authorities as well." [ Lewy 309 ]

They take credit for the heroic witness of Monsignor Bernard Lichtenberg while neglecting to notice that they allowed him to be carted off to prison and death because they would not stand with him. The fact that he was imprisoned, spent two years in prison, then was re-arrested and died on his way to Dachau shows how isolated he was. They take credit for a handful of Catholic heroes who owed nothing to them, and fail to take responsibility for the millions of Catholics, instructed by them, who faithfully served the Nazi cause. If the few Catholics who resisted proves something about the Catholic bishops what about the many who went along with the Nazis ? There were a million of those for every one who resisted.

As a matter of history, the failure of the Catholic bishops to prevent the mass murder of the Jews must be put in the context of the failure of others. The failure of the Catholic Bishops is paralleled by the failure of the Protestants. America and Britain could have rescued the Jews of Germany just by allowing them to emigrate. Jewish writers like Hannah Arendt and Bruno Bettelheim have documented the degree to which Jewish Organizations facilitated the Nazi programs. It isn't that the Catholic Bishops were especially derelict compared to others, but that their position as prominent spokesmen for an international organization which claims to be the Christian Church gives them a special moral liability.

### The Attack on the Polish Church

The failure of the Catholic Bishops in respect to the Jews was due in part to the historical antagonism of Christians towards Jews. But there are parallel instances which have nothing to do with that. The Catholic Gypsies were also rounded up and murdered by the Nazis. In Poland, the Catholic Churches were targeted by the Nazi occupation. Professor Lewy notes that: "A report circulating among the diocesan chanceries on conditions in Poland showed that as of October 1, 1941, in the archdiocese of Posen alone, 74 priests had been shot or had died in concentration camps and 451 were being held in prisons or camps. Of the 441 churches of the archdiocese only 30 still were open for the Poles. Catholic military chaplains in the east, meanwhile, were witnessing tens of thousands of Russian prisoners being killed by hunger. The episcopate tried to lighten its burden of conscience by several times protesting the treatment of the Polish Church to the government in Berlin. The joint pastoral letter of August 1943 declared that it was wrong to kill *innocent hostages and unarmed prisoners of war*. " [ Lewy 233 ] While the Catholic bishops made some protest, they still went along with the Nazi invasion of Poland and still remained loyal to Hitler's government. More than anything else it was patriotism and faith in the empire which mandated that they go along with Hitler.

And they did. *In World War II, the leading spokesmen of the Catholic Church in Germany did become channels of Nazi control over their followers* [ Zahn 203 quoted by Lewy 232 ]

### Immoral Choices

Of course Americans can sit in judgment upon the Vatican of World War II because the Allies won and Germany and Italy lost. Faced with the choice between the Communists and the Fascists, the Catholic Church went along with the Fascists. Was that so obviously the wrong choice in the context of the times ? Was the American choice to go along with Joe Stalin instead such a crystal clear moral choice ? Do the subsequent mass graves of Eastern Europe, China, Vietnam and Cambodia--to count only the dead and not the miseries of the living--not call that choice into question ? Long after World War II ended, Mao Tse Tung's *Great Leap Forward* led to the starvation of 20 million Chinese. A 2005 book by Jung Chang and Jon Halliday says *over 70 million Chinese perished under Mao's rule--in peacetime*. And tells how he became the ruler of China because Stalin--America's ally--picked him for the job. In Cambodia, Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge systematically murdered half the population. And all of that came about because of the triumph of Joe Stalin and the Bolsheviks for which America must take full credit. The Vatican signed a *concordat* with Hitler in 1933, nine years **BEFORE** he killed 5 million Jews in 1942-45. America entered a military alliance with Joe Stalin **NINE YEARS AFTER** he killed 10 million Ukrainians in 1932-33. Which was worse ?

But there has to be a criticism of the Church--what pretends to be the Church--which does not apply to the *realpolitik* of the empires of this world. Just because the American Empire saw no better choice than those offered by Hitler and Stalin, it does not excuse the Church for seeing no other alternative. But that defines the Worldly Church. Like the World itself, it must choose between Left and Right, Communist or Fascist. We must applaud the triumphs of the Red Army [ while ignoring its rapes ] or goose step in unison with the legions of the crooked cross. So we ally ourselves alternately with one and then the other and congratulate ourselves that we are always opposed to *evil doers*. Even if that always pushes us into an alliance with the alternate set of *evil doers*. America is currently allied with the war lords of Afghanistan, while it resurrects the army of the old regime in Iraq, while it creates new armies. That is how it defines *democracy*. Somehow militarism and democracy are one and the same.

So Germany was defeated. Hitler committed suicide in his bunker as the Red Army reached the rubble that once was Berlin. Where they raped 100,000 women as part of the celebration--the triumph over Evil. Meanwhile, with American support, Stalin *liberated* Europe and imposed the Bolshevik version of Hitler's new world order. Meanwhile, hundreds of thousands of German prisoners died of exposure, starvation and disease in American prison camps. ( see page 89 of *The Roots of Abortion* ) So it was predictable that the same demons which ravaged Europe in World War II would ravage Vietnam 20 years later. Now it is *Americanism* that provides the ideology. It is *Democracy* which organizes the carnage. There was no *anti semitism* involved in what America's half black army did to the Vietnamese. But there was still somehow the same murderous racism at work. *Get rid of the gooks* was still the mandate. We cannot blame Adolph Hitler or Nazism for the genocides of the American Empire. But we only have to look in the mirror to find Hitler's ghost.

*Terry Sullivan* c. 2010

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- Geoffrey Wheatcroft *The Controversy of Zion* 1996
- Gordon Zahn *German Catholics and Hitler's Wars* 1962
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letter to a friend:

February 4th 2010

In response to the clipping you gave me about Pope Pius XII-- If they are going to give the pope and his *Church* credit for everything that *Catholics* did during World War II, I suppose they should give him the credit for the American Catholics who invaded Italy and Germany and killed all the *fascists* they could. And the American Catholic pilots who bombed Berlin and Hamburg. My problem with this so-called *Church* is that it had no better answer to *Evil* than a war in which 60 million people were killed, two thirds of them civilians. I also have a problem with the alliance with Stalin's Russia which led directly to Mao Tse Sung in China etc. What pretends to be The Christian Church has to have a better answer than this.

Item # 1 If *the Catholic Church under Pius XII was instrumental in saving 860,000 Jews from Nazi death camps*, then who was responsible for the 5 million Jews who were **not saved** from these camps ? Did the Catholics serving in the German army and the S.S. have anything to do with it ? If the Pope is to be given the credit for Jews saved by French Catholics, should he not also accept the blame for the Jews rounded up and sent to these camps by the German Catholics in Hitler's armies ? Catholics were 40 per cent of the German army and 22 per cent of the S.S. which specialized in the mass killings of the Jews. And, with one voice, their bishops exhorted them to serve.

*was instrumental* What does that mean ? As I documented in my book, Pope Pius XII was directly involved in the rescue of 4000 Jews who escaped the round-up in Rome by receiving hospitality in various Catholic institutions. Another 3000 were taken in by Italian families, probably Catholic. But the Pope does not deserve the credit for what so many others did, Catholic and non-Catholic. They took the risks, he didn't. The Portugese Consul Mendes lost his job and his estate because he helped the Jews escape from France. The Pope had nothing to do with it, and it is just toadyism to pretend that he did.

from Lewy's book: "In Freiburg, Dr. Gertrud Luckner, an official of the *Caritas* (the large Catholic philanthropic organization) helped Jews to get across the Swiss border, sent packages to deportees and distributed money from a special fund established by the episcopate for non-Aryans. She was arrested in November 1943 while trying to bring a sum of money to the few remaining Jews in Berlin, and spent the rest of the war in a concentration camp."

The actions of these isolated heroes and heroines owed very little to the rest of the Catholic Church and they owed nothing to the Pope. Meanwhile, the actions of the millions of Catholics who joined the armies of Mussolini and Hitler and committed terrible crimes **ARE HIS RESPONSIBILITY**. They are the responsibility of the bishops who encouraged them to do it and they are the responsibility of the pope these bishops looked to for moral and spiritual guidance. Eugenio Pacelli may have been a nice guy personally, but that does not provide moral cover for what millions of the members of his Church did **with his sanction** and the **sanction of the bishops** whom he led. If he passed the war years in a kind of spiritual cocoon, horrified but helpless, it should have pushed him to recognize that his organization had very little in common with any group which could make a valid claim to be part of *the Christian Church*. It is quite simple really: real Christians don't take orders from Hitler. Or fight for Mussolini. Or even for Roosevelt. They don't join an alliance with Joe Stalin. They don't drop bombs on kids. You can't do that and still pretend to be *Christian*.

Item # 2 why the Pope did not speak out; instead of making up excuses for him, let him explain it himself: "when Dr. Edoardo Senatro, the correspondent of *L'Osservatore Romano* in Berlin, asked Pius XII whether he would not protest the extermination of the Jews, the Pope is reported to have answered, *Dear friend, do not forget that millions of Catholics serve in the German armies. Shall I bring them into conflicts of conscience ?* (Lewy 303-304)" [ quoted in the book I gave you ] So the head of what claims to be the Christian Church cannot tell its German members that they should refuse to serve in those armies which were invading Poland and France and rounding up the Jews. Neither can the German Catholic Bishops. Instead, they unanimously exhorted German Catholics to serve in those armies as their *Christian* duty. It is a fundamental moral issue in respect to the question as to why the Catholics of Germany went along with Hitler's wars and with the round-up and deportation of the Jews of Germany. Does the Pope get credit for this too ? Or does he only get credit for the good things that Catholics did in World War II ?

*the concentration camp prisoners did not want Pius to speak out openly* "worse catastrophe" . . . "accelerated the massacre" This is one of the silliest excuses anyone has invented for the Pope's silence. Most of the Jews arriving at Auschwitz were killed the same day--within a couple of hours. The Pope speaking out would have *accelerated the massacre* ? As I documented in my book, the Nazis were forced to halt the killing of mental patients when the German bishops led the opposition to it. It was not a question of appealing to Hitler. He was forced to back down.

The question is **not** why the Pope did not address Hitler with an admonition to **Stop Killing the Jews !** The question is why he did not call upon German bishops and priests and rank and file Catholics to **refuse to help** Hitler kill the Jews. He could not do that *of course*. But **why couldn't he ?**

It was not Hitler and the Nazis who were killing the Jews. It was the ordinary Catholics and Lutherans of Germany who did the actual killing. Why didn't their Bishops and Pastors tell them to stop ? That is the real question which these silly alibi stories fail to address.

The question is why the Pope **and** the Bishops **and** the Lutheran Pastors did not call upon the Catholics and Lutherans of Hitler's armies to refuse to participate in these mass killings. The question is why the Catholics of Italy--the Pope, the bishops, the priests, the nuns, and the laity went along with Mussolini, Hitler's ally. Hitler and Mussolini were nobodies without the blind obedience of the *Christians* of Germany and Italy. It was these *Christians* who did all of the actual killing, not the *mad man* who ordered it done. His *madness* gives him some excuse. What is their excuse ?

item # 3 *a lonely voice crying out of the silence* A Church which has **One Saint at the Top** of it and all the rest are held to no standard whatever if they get to Mass on Sunday. Since he was the head of the Bishops of Italy, the Bishops of Germany, the Bishops of Poland, the Bishops of France, the Bishops of America etc. why should he be *lonely* ? Why doesn't he instruct all these bishops to insist that *we absolutely forbid members of the Catholic Church to kill one another. Or even to participate in the round up of the Jews.* Is that really too much to ask of someone who claims to be the head of the *Christian Church and the Vicar of Jesus Christ on Earth* ?

item # 4 Albert Einstein in *Time* magazine of December 23 1940. Einstein was a professor at the University of Berlin when the Nazis came to power. They fired him and decreed that *Jewish Physics* must be replaced by *German Physics*. And the University went along with a complete Nazification of the curriculum. Whereas Cardinal Faulhaber refused to allow a Nazi Party member to be appointed to a Chair of Theology at the University of Munich, even though the School of Theology was closed as a result. But Faulhaber also gave total patriotic support to the wars launched by Hitler, including the invasions of Poland and France. When his sermons on the Old Testament were interpreted as a defense



of the Jews, he hastily issued a public letter which made clear that he had nothing to say about the *Jewish Question*. And he didn't, then or later. It is indecent to try and use Einstein's 1940 comment as propaganda cover for what the German bishops did--what they failed to do--in opposition to the round up of the Jews which began two years later.

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item # 5 Pope Pius XII loaned 15 kilograms of gold to Israel Zolli, the Chief Rabbi of Rome, and probably saved his life among the 4000 Roman Jews who were sheltered in Catholic institutions when the Germans rounded up the Jews of Rome. If someone is willing to loan me 33 pounds of gold, without any security or realistic chance of having it paid back, and also saves my life, I would seriously consider joining his church.

item # 6 "**to prevent retaliation**, he did not refer to Nazism by name" This is *alibi literature*. Let the Pope speak for himself, as he does in the quote in item # 2. Recognize the position he was in. His predecessor, Pope Pius XI, blessed the armies of Mussolini on their way to the rape of Ethiopia in 1935. Pius XII was in a similar position. The prisoner of the Vatican. Surrounded by Rome, which was Mussolini's capitol. How many Catholics were in Mussolini's armies ? Quite a few. And Germany was Italy's ally. German soldiers were in Italy--in Rome itself--to defend Italy from the Allied invasion. In terms of **Realistic Politics**, Pope Pius XII had very few options. Which raises the question as to how someone who claims to be the Head of the Christian Church ever got into this position. You can find out by reading my other book: *The Church of the Empire*, which describes the establishment of the Imperial Catholic and Orthodox Church by the Emperor Constantine in the 4th century. That is where *Patriotic Christianity* began. It ended in Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy. Or, rather, it should have ended there. It did, for any sane *Christian*.

item # 7 the *lonely voice* again; as if the guy who was revered by hundreds of bishops and thousands of priests and nuns and millions of lay Catholics could not say to them: *Stop Killing Each Other, for Christ's Sake ! Stop participating in the round up of the Jews !* Yes, all right, he could not say that. **WHY NOT ?** That is the question you have to answer if you are to go on believing that this guy was the head of the Real Christian Church. # "*the Pope put himself squarely against Hitlerism*" Not so **squarely** since he could not even mention it by name; since he had signed the *Concordat* with Hitler; Since the bishops of Italy were **squarely** in support of Mussolini's wars and the alliance with Germany. Since the bishops of Hitler's Germany had put themselves **squarely** behind the invasion of Poland and France and said nothing about the round up of the Jews of Germany. As I noted in my book, the Pope's denunciation of *National Socialism* came **after** the fall of Mussolini and Hitler. That does not meet the standard of courageous Christian witness against evil.

Does your *Christian* faith really depend upon the assurance that the Catholic Church led by Pope Pius XII represents authentic Christianity and that it had no responsibility for the 60 million killed in World War II, including the 5 million Jews ? You are angry with the apostasy of the post Vatican II Church, but you won't acknowledge the moral and spiritual *problem* with the Catholic Church of the 1940s, when millions of Catholics set out to murder one another--and anybody else in the line of fire--with the blessings of their bishops. Was the serenely saintly guy in the Vatican above it all and in no way responsible ?

The final act of World War II was a Catholic pilot dropping an atomic bomb on Hiroshima--on a Catholic grade school at *ground zero*. By that time, the bombing of civilians--women and kids and old folks--was the standard practice of the American Air Force. Was the Pope in no way to blame for this ? Like other Catholics, Colonel Paul Tibbets assumed he was following the ethics of the Catholic Church.

The *Just War* teaching which in effect justifies any war and leaves it up to the *sovereign*--like Adolph Hitler--to decide what is *just*. This **was** NOT a *Christian* Church !

*Terry Sullivan*

see *The Heresy of the Christian State*

an account of papal statements and encyclicals;