



18 DPA SERIES: THE NAZI HOLOCAUST - SERIES II — Jews were the targets of the German destructive will (Vernichtungswill) after Hitler came to power in 1933. (The fate of all other people was to be decided after the Nazi victory in World War II.) The "Final Solution" was adopted January 20, 1942 in the Berlin suburb of Grossen-Wannsee. Originally, the Nazis planned to deport them to the island of Madagascar, off the coast of Africa. The minutes of the Wannsee Conference (of which 30 copies were made) show the Germans now intended to destroy 11,000,000 Jews: "The Jews should in the course of the Final Solution be taken in a suitable manner to the east for use as labor . . . undoubtedly a large number will fall through natural diminution. The remnant that is finally able to survive all this — since this is undoubtedly the part with the strongest resistance — must be treated accordingly, since these people . . . are to be regarded as the germ cell of a new Jewish development, in case they should succeed and go free . . . In the course of the execution of the Final Solution, Europe will be combed from west to east." The above photo aid shows high-ranking Nazis attending a Wagnerian opera. (Hitler preferred Richard Wagner whose contempt for Jewish music and composers matched the Fuehrer's hatred of the Jews.) Left to right: Rudolph Hess, Hitler, Martin Bormann (Hitler's private secretary), Hermann Goerina, and Joachim Von Ribbentrop.

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