

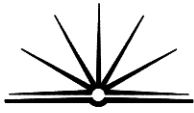


~~The significant events in the career of
Albert Speer up to~~

The events in the career of Albert Speer
up until 1945 are significant. ~~important~~

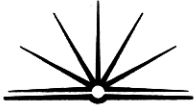
Speer was born in 1905 in Mannheim to
upper-middle class parents. The effects
of World War One were minimal on his
family, who always had the best of
everything. In 1927, he graduated an
architect, but found work in his chosen
profession hard to find. The lack of jobs
resulting from the Wall Street crash of
1929, and resulting depression, meant
~~that work was scarce~~ that Speer ended up
working for his father.

In 1930, he attended a meeting at which
Hitler spoke. He was mesmerised, and later
decided to join. The fact that he joined
before the great masses & before Hitler



became chancellor, meant that he was acting out of conviction, rather than just following the mob. Although Speer never considered himself 'political' Hitler struck a chord with him.

After Speer became a member of the Nazi Party, he found that the architectural and designing jobs began to flow. In ~~many~~ March 1933, Speer was commissioned for the redesigning of Goebbels office. Later that same year, he ~~was~~ designed a concept for a Nuremberg rally, in which he used 130 anti-aircraft search lights and beamed them up into the air, in what became known as his 'cathedral of light.' He also had a huge wooden eagle carved as the backdrop to Hitler's podium. Speer very much impressed Hitler, and they met.



Over the next few years, they became close friends, as Hitler secretly shared Speer's passion for architecture. Speer was made in charge of the artistic side of all future party rallies, and even drew up plans to expand the Nuremberg venue so it could hold more people.

Hitler asked Speer to help him create his dream of rebuilding Berlin to represent a city of the thousand year Roman empire. Over the next few years, ~~the German~~ Germany obtained access to eight sandstone quarries ~~Europe-wide~~ over Europe. ~~He made~~ use of ~~concentration camp prisoners,~~ ~~either to help mine the stone or for~~ ~~the use of slave labour.~~

In order for Speer's plans, bigger and more grand than Hitler's original ideas, to go ahead, he ~~needed~~ had to make

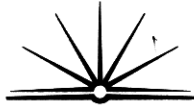


noon. ~~However~~ In one part of Berlin, he evicted hundreds of thousands of people from their homes - most were Jews.

Upon the outbreak of war in 1939, ~~from~~ the redesigning and rebuilding of Berlin ceased, and no more party rallies were held. Speer ~~was~~ was appalled by Hitler's lack of mobilisation of the economy from ~~war time to~~ peace time to war time.

Early war victories by Hitler and the German Army meant that the cost of war was not felt, and production of luxury items continued.

The death of Fritz Todt in 1942 in a plane crash ~~left~~ left an opening that Hitler had to fill. He appointed Speer to the position of Minister for Armaments and War Production. In this position, Speer was free to use his



power to bring the production of war goods under a standardised measure. He changed slow, quality production of numerous sizes of the same weapon, to weapons that were standardised in size, and easily and relatively cheaply able to be mass produced. He encouraged Hitler to permit women in the workforce, and ~~also~~ cease production of luxury items. In doing this, Speer was able to increase Germany's production for war by more than triple in just one year. This prolonged the war by a few years.