



13] @ As a young man Albert Speer wanted to be a mathematician, but with the influence of his father he became an architect. This would be start of Albert's significance in history.

After learning at his school of architecture for around three years he became an assistant to his teacher ~~E~~ Tessenow and on the days Tessenow was absent Speer would take the reigns and teach the lessons.

One day after teaching the lessons Tessenow had left him, his pupils persuaded Speer to go to a student rally with them to see the leader of the Nazi party speak. With first reluctance he gave in and went with them. This was Albert Speer's first introduction to Nazi policy and the man named Adolf Hitler.

When he had arrived he was surprised to see how Hitler was presenting himself.

In the Nazi flyers all around Berlin and Munich they show Hitler in a military uniform

Appearing as a hard liner. But as Hitler takes the stand in front of him he is dressed in a casual blue suit and, <sup>in a</sup> well composed manner he starts his speech on a soft note. This brought Speer some intrigue and as the speech went on he was taken away by the emotion and passion of the crowd. This was the most significant event to draw Speer into Hitler's sphere of influence.

After becoming a member he started with little involvement but as time went on and he was a struggling architect with little income he found himself working for the Nazi party as a young architect refurbishing old buildings and giving ~~him~~ a ~~hand~~.

Eventually the Head of the Nazi section Speer was given word to the officials of the party and he became more involved.

1933 Nazi party becomes Government.

After being introduced to Hitler and having



small conversations with him. Hitler took a liking to Speer and made him the official architect of the Reich.

As time went on and Speer became more enveloped into the inner circle workings of Nazi Germany he made his way to becoming the minister for armaments.

Here in this position he made his name into the history books at the top of his prominence.



b) As minister of Armaments Albert Speer had assumed collective responsibility for whatever was happening in terms of the treatment of the Jews and eventual eradication of the Jewish problem.

There is no real evidence to link Albert Speer had knowledge of the workings inside the concentration camps and death camps.

But when Speer <sup>kept</sup> asking for labour to build his armaments the ~~fact~~ labour had to come from somewhere so he had to have ~~ever~~ just suspected that he was using forced labour. The only real interpretation that there is of Albert Speer is his Auto-biography "Inside the third <sup>Reich</sup>". This gives a detail recollection of the events in ~~left~~ his life leading up to the Nuremberg trials.

Where he was charged and convicted of

- crimes against humanity &
- use of forced labour.

So to properly judge Speer history doesn't



Supply us with adequate information for forming a balanced interpretation of Albert Speer as he states that he wasn't present at the meetings when the persecutions and eradication of the Jews and other races where mentioned.