

**THE  
DEATH  
OF  
ADOLF HITLER**

**(1945)**

**Compiled by**

**Campbell M Gold**

**(2009)**

(This material was compiled from various sources in the United States public domain)

CMG Archives  
<http://campbellmgold.com>

--()--

From the various sources considered, the followg material was compiled to describe the closing page of Adolf Hitler's life.

(Picture Below - Adolf Hitler and Eva Braun)



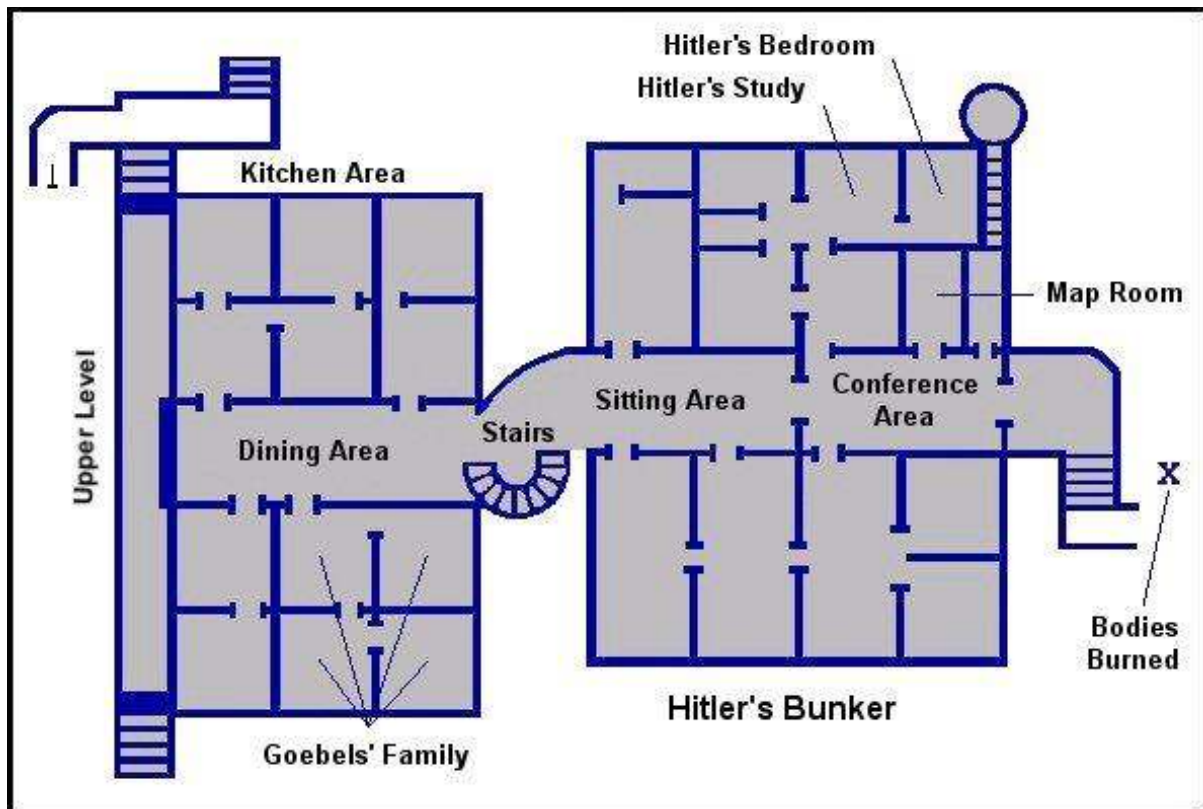
--()--

**The Führerbunker**

In April 1945, Hitler moved into the Führerbunker, which was located 50 feet below the Chancellery buildings in Berlin. In this underground structure, containing approximately thirty rooms on two floors,

Hitler held his daily briefings with his generals and personal staff. At this time, Hitler continued to issue orders to defend Berlin with armies that were already wiped out or were retreating westward to surrender to the American forces.

(Picture below - Plan of the Führerbunker)



### Denunciation

On 22 April 1945, during a three hour military conference in the bunker, Hitler denounced the Army and the 'universal treason, corruption, lies and failures' of all those who had deserted him. It is reported that Hitler had exclaimed that, "The end had come," and that his Reich was ended, and there was nothing more to do but stay in Berlin and fight to the very end.

His staff tried several times, without success, to convince Hitler to escape to the mountains around Berchtesgaden, and from there to direct the remaining troops, and to thus prolong the Reich. However, Hitler told them that his decision to stay was final; and moreover, he requested that a public announcement be made.

### Goebbels Family Arrives

Joseph Goebbels, Hitler's Propaganda Minister, then brought his entire family, including his wife and their six young children, into the bunker.

### Personnel Given Permission to Leave

Hitler began sorting through his own papers and selected documents to be burned. Then, Hitler gave permission to the personnel in the bunker to leave - most took advantage of the offer and headed, in trucks and planes, south to the area around Berchtesgaden. Those who remained included Hitler's top aide, Martin Bormann, the Goebbels family, some SS and military aides, two of Hitler's secretaries, and Eva Braun.

On 23 April 1945, Hitler's personal friend and Minister of Armaments, Albert Speer, arrived for a final meeting. At this meeting, Speer informed Hitler that he had disobeyed his "scorched earth policy", and he had preserved German factories and industry for the post-war period. Hitler listened in silence and exhibited no particular reaction - this surprised all present.

### **The Göring Telegram**

During the afternoon of 23 April 1945, Hitler received a telegram from Hermann Göring, who had already reached the safety of Berchtesgaden:

*My Führer!*

*In view of your decision to remain in the fortress of Berlin, do you agree that I take over at once the total leadership of the Reich, with full freedom of action at home and abroad as your deputy, in accordance with your decree of June 29, 1941?*

*If no reply is received by 10 o'clock tonight, I shall take it for granted that you have lost your freedom of action, and shall consider the conditions of your decree as fulfilled, and shall act for the best interests of our country and our people.*

*You know what I feel for you in this gravest hour of my life. Words fail me to express myself. May God protect you, and speed you quickly here in spite of all.*

*Your loyal*

*Hermann Göring*

### **Göring Arrested**

Hitler was very angry, and prompted by Bormann, he sent Göring a return message saying that he [Göring] had committed "high treason." And although the penalty was death, Göring was to be spared, because of his long years of service, if he would immediately resign all of his offices. Bormann then transmitted an order to the SS near Berchtesgaden to arrest Göring and his staff - and before the dawn on 25 April 1945, Göring and his staff were all in custody.

### **Arrival of Luftwaffe General Ritter von Greim**

The next day, 26 April 1945, Soviet artillery started to make its first hits on the Chancellery buildings and grounds. On the evening of 26 April 1945, a small plane containing pilot, Hanna Reitsch, and Luftwaffe General Ritter von Greim, landed in the street near the bunker. It had been a difficult and dangerous flight in which Greim had been wounded in his foot from ground fire.

On meeting with Hitler, Greim was informed that Göring has been relieved of his duties, and that he was Göring's successor and was promoted to Field-Marshal in command of the Luftwaffe. Hitler had insisted that Greim come in person to receive his new commission. However, because of his wound, Greim remained in the bunker for three days.

On the night of 27 April 1945, the bombardment of the Chancellery area reached its peak, and Hitler continued to send telegrams to Keitel ordering that Berlin be relieved by (now completely non-existent) loyal forces.

### **Heinrich Himmler's Betrayal**

On 28 April 1945, Hitler received word via Goebbels' Propaganda Ministry that the British news services were reporting that SS Reichsführer Heinrich Himmler had sought negotiations with the Allies and had offered to surrender the German forces in the west to the American General Eisenhower.

Eyewitnesses in the bunker reported that Hitler "raged like a madman" with a ferocity never seen before. Heinrich Himmler had been with Hitler from the beginning, and had earned the nickname "der treue Heinrich" (faithful Heinrich) because of his faithful and loyal years of service. In response to this

betrayal, Hitler ordered Himmler's arrest, and also ordered Himmler's personal representative in the bunker, SS Lt. Gen. Hermann Fegelein, to be removed to the Chancellery garden and shot. As a point of interest, Fegelein was also the husband of Eva Braun's sister.

### **Hitler Dictates His Last Will and Testament**

It was the end; and with the desertion of Göring and Himmler, and with the Soviets' continuing advance into Berlin, Hitler began to prepare for his own end.

Early in the morning of 29 April 1945, Hitler dictated his last will and testament (signed and dated at 04:00), and a two-part political testament (signed and dated at 04:00).

In the political testament, Hitler expressed many of the same sentiments that had outlined in *Mein Kampf* back in 1923-1924. Hitler blamed the Jews for everything, including the Second World War. He also made reference to his 1939 threat against the Jews along with a veiled reference to the subsequent consequences: [some individuals have interpreted this as the gas chambers]

*"I further left no one in doubt that this time not only would millions of children of Europe's Aryan people die of hunger, not only would millions of grown men suffer death, and not only hundreds of thousands of women and children be burnt and bombed to death in the towns, without the real criminal having to atone for this guilt, even if by more humane means."*

### **Hitler and Eva Braun are Married**

Just before midnight, 28 April 1945, Hitler marries Eva Braun in a brief civil ceremony. There is then a quiet celebration of the marriage in Hitler's private suite. Champagne is drunk, and those left in the bunker listen to Hitler reminiscing about better days. Hitler concluded, however, that death would be a release for him after the recent betrayal of his oldest friends and supporters.

### **Death of Mussolini**

By the afternoon of 29 April 1945, Soviet troops were only a mile away from the Führerbunker. Inside the bunker the last news from the outside world told of the downfall and death of Mussolini, who had been captured by Italian partisans, summarily executed, hung upside down, and then dumped into the gutter.

### **Poison**

Hitler continued his preparations by first having his poison tested on his favourite dog, Blondi. He also handed poison capsules to his female secretaries, and apologized that he didn't have better parting gifts to give them. The capsules were to be used if the Soviets stormed and entered the bunker.

### **Farewell and a Lighter Mood**

About 02:30, 30 April 1945, Hitler came out of his private quarters into the dining area for a farewell with staff members. With glazed eyes, he shook hands in silence, then retired back into his quarters. Following Hitler's departure, the officers and staff members considered the significance of what they had just witnessed - all the pressure of the recent past was melting in the realisation that the end, and particularly Hitler's end, was fast approaching. Consequently, a lighter mood broke through, followed by some merry-making, and even some dancing.

### **Hitler's Final Military Situation Conference**

At noon, 30 April 1945, Hitler called his final military situation conference and was told that the Soviets were only a block away.

## **Last Meal and Farewell**

At 14:00, 30 April 1945, Hitler had his last meal - a vegetarian lunch. His chauffeur was then ordered to deliver 200 litres of petrol to the Chancellery garden.

Hitler and his wife Eva then bid a final farewell to Bormann, Goebbels, Generals Krebs and Burgdorf, and other remaining staff members.

## **Death of Hitler and Eva Braun**

Hitler and his wife then retired into their private quarters while Bormann and Goebbels remained quietly nearby. A few minutes later a gunshot was heard. At 15:30, 30 April 1945, Bormann and Goebbels entered the private quarters and found Hitler lying on the sofa, splashed with blood from a gunshot to his right temple. Eva Braun was also there - dead from taking poison (cyanide capsule).

## **Cremation of Adolf Hitler and Eva Braun**

The bodies of Adolf Hitler and Eva Braun were immediately carried up to the Chancellery garden, doused with petrol, and burned while Bormann and Goebbels stood by and gave a final Nazi salute. Over the next three hours the bodies were repeatedly doused with petrol and burned. Finally, the charred remains were shovelled onto canvas, wrapped up, placed in a shell crater, and buried.

## **Back Inside the Bunker**

Back inside the bunker, with Hitler now gone, everyone began smoking (something that was not generally permitted), and collectively plotting daring (but fruitless) escapes out of Berlin to avoid capture by the Soviets.

## **Death of the Goebbels Family**

On 01 May 1945, Goebbels and his wife proceeded to poison their six young children in the bunker, then they went up into the Chancellery garden where they were shot in the back of the head at their request by an SS man. Their bodies were then burned, but were only partially destroyed and they were left unburied. Their remains were discovered by the Soviets the next day, 02 May 1945, and filmed. Later, the charred bodies of Goebbels and his wife became an often seen propaganda image that "symbolised the legacy of Hitler's Reich".

It was indeed the end of an Era...

--()--

## **The Last Will and Testament of Adolf Hitler**

*As I did not consider that I could take responsibility, during the years of struggle, of contracting a marriage, I have now decided, before the closing of my earthly career, to take as my wife that girl who, after many years of faithful friendship, entered, of her own free will, the practically besieged town in order to share her destiny with me. At her own desire she goes as my wife with me into death. It will compensate us for what we both lost through my work in the service of my people.*

*What I possess belongs - in so far as it has any value - to the Party. Should this no longer exist, to the State; should the State also be destroyed, no further decision of mine is necessary.*

*My paintings, in the collections which I have bought in the course of years, have never been collected for private purposes, but only for the extension of a gallery in my home town of Linz on Donau.*

*It is my most sincere wish that this bequest may be duly executed.*

*I nominate as my Executor my most faithful Party comrade, Martin Bormann*

*He is given full legal authority to make all decisions.*

*He is permitted to take out everything that has a sentimental value or is necessary for the maintenance of a modest simple life, for my brothers and sisters, also above all for the mother of my wife and my faithful co-workers who are well known to him, principally my old Secretaries Frau Winter etc. who have for many years aided me by their work.*

*I myself and my wife - in order to escape the disgrace of deposition or capitulation - choose death. It is our wish to be burnt immediately on the spot where I have carried out the greatest part of my daily work in the course of a twelve years' service to my people.*

*Given in Berlin, 29th April 1945, 4:00 A.M.  
[Signed] A. Hitler*

*[Witnesses]*

*Dr. Joseph Goebbels*

*Martin Bormann*

*Colonel Nicholas von Below*

--()--

(Picture Below - Adolf Hitler)



### **First Part of the Political Testament**

*More than thirty years have now passed since I in 1914 made my modest contribution as a volunteer in the First World War that was forced upon the Reich.*



*In these three decades I have been actuated solely by love and loyalty to my people in all my thoughts, acts, and life. They gave me the strength to make the most difficult decisions which have ever confronted mortal man. I have spent my time, my working strength, and my health in these three decades.*

*It is untrue that I or anyone else in Germany wanted the war in 1939. It was desired and instigated exclusively by those international statesmen who were either of Jewish descent or worked for Jewish interests. I have made too many offers for the control and limitation of armaments, which posterity will not for all time be able to disregard for the responsibility for the outbreak of this war to be laid on me. I have further never wished that after the first fatal world war a second against England, or even against America, should break out. Centuries will pass away, but out of the ruins of our towns and monuments the hatred against those finally responsible whom we have to thank for everything, International Jewry and its helpers, will grow.*

*Three days before the outbreak of the German-Polish war I again proposed to the British ambassador in Berlin a solution to the German-Polish problem - similar to that in the case of the Saar district, under international control. This offer also cannot be denied. It was only rejected because the leading circles in English politics wanted the war, partly on account of the business hoped for and partly under influence of propaganda organized by International Jewry.*

*I have also made it quite plain that, if the nations of Europe are again to be regarded as mere shares to be bought and sold by these international conspirators in money and finance, then that race, Jewry, which is the real criminal of this murderous struggle, will be saddled with the responsibility. I further left no one in doubt that this time not only would millions of children of Europe's Aryan people die of hunger, not only would millions of grown men suffer death, and not only hundreds of thousands of women and children be burnt and bombed to death in the towns, without the real criminal having to atone for this guilt, even if by more humane means.*

*After six years of war, which in spite of all setbacks, will go down one day in history as the most glorious and valiant demonstration of a nation's life purpose, I cannot forsake the city which is the capital of this Reich. As our forces are too small to make any further stand against the enemy attack at this place and since our resistance is gradually being weakened by men who are as deluded as they are lacking in initiative, I should like, by remaining in this town, to share my fate with those, the millions of others, who have also taken upon themselves to do so. Moreover I do not wish to fall into the hands of an enemy who requires a new spectacle organized by the Jews for the amusement of their hysterical masses.*

*I have decided therefore to remain in Berlin and there of my own free will to choose death at the moment when I believe the position of the Führer and Chancellor itself can no longer be held.*

*I die with a joyful heart, aware of the immeasurable deeds and achievements of our soldiers at the front, our women at home, the achievements of our farmers and workers and the work, unique in history, of our youth who bear my name.*

*That from the bottom of my heart I express my thanks to you all, is just as self-evident as my wish that you should, because of that, on no account give up the struggle, but rather continue it against the enemies of the Fatherland, no matter where, true to the creed of a great Clausewitz. From the sacrifice of our soldiers and from my own unity with them unto death, will in any case spring up in the history of Germany, the seed of a radiant renaissance of the National Socialist movement and thus of the realization of a true community of nations.*

*Many of the most courageous men and women have decided to unite their lives with mine until the very last. I have begged and finally ordered them not to do this, but to*

*take part in the further battle of the Nation. I beg the heads of the Armies, the Navy and the Air Force to strengthen by all possible means the spirit of resistance of our soldiers in the National Socialist sense, with special reference to the fact that also I myself, as founder and creator of this movement, have preferred death to cowardly abdication or even capitulation.*

*May it, at some future time, become part of the code of honor of German Army officers - as is already the case in our Navy - that the surrender of a district or of a town is impossible, and that above all commanders must march ahead as shining examples, faithfully fulfilling their duty unto death.*

--()--

## **Second Part of the Political Testament**

*Before my death I expel the former Reichsmarschall Hermann Göring from the party and deprive him of all rights which he may enjoy by virtue of the decree of June 29th, 1941; and also by virtue of my statement in the Reichstag on September 1st, 1939, I appoint in his place Grossadmiral Dönitz, President of the Reich and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces.*

*Before my death I expel the former Reichsführer-SS and Minister of the Interior, Heinrich Himmler, from the party and from all offices of State. In his stead I appoint Gauleiter Karl Hanke as Reichsführer-SS and Chief of the German Police, and Gauleiter Paul Giesler as Reich Minister of the Interior.*

*Göring and Himmler, quite apart from their disloyalty to my person, have done immeasurable harm to the country and the whole nation by secret negotiations with the enemy, which they have conducted without my knowledge and against my wishes, and by illegally attempting to seize power in the State for themselves...[Hitler then names the members of the new government].*

*Although a number of men, such as Martin Bormann, Dr. Goebbels, etc., together with their wives, have joined me of their own free will and did not wish to leave the capital of the Reich under any circumstances, but were willing to perish with me here, I must nevertheless ask them to obey my request, and in this case set the interests of the nation above their own feelings. By their work and loyalty as comrades they will be just as close to me after death, as I hope that my spirit will linger among them and always go with them. Let them be hard but never unjust, but above all let them never allow fear to influence their actions, and set the honor of the nation above everything in the world. Finally, let them be conscious of the fact that our task, that of continuing the building of a National Socialist State, represents the work of the coming centuries, which places every single person under an obligation always to serve the common interest and to subordinate his own advantage to this end. I demand of all Germans, all National Socialists, men, women and all the men of the Armed Forces, that they be faithful and obedient unto death to the new government and its President.*

*Above all I charge the leaders of the nation and those under them to scrupulous observance of the laws of race and to merciless opposition to the universal poisoner of all peoples, International Jewry.*

*Given in Berlin, this 29th day of April 1945, 4:00 A.M.*

*Adolf Hitler*

*[Witnesses]*

*Dr. Joseph Goebbels      Wilhelm Burgdorf  
Martin Bormann          Hans Krebs*

--()--



(Picture Below - 30 January 1933 - Hitler Appointed Chancellor



--()--

### **Postscript - What happened to Hitler's Body?**

There are many theories as to what happened to Hitler's body - this is the one that I prefer:

Hitler's body was found approximately 2 meters from the emergency exit to the Bunker in the Chancellery garden. His body was found approximately 3-4 days after the end of the fighting in Berlin by the 79th SMERSH unit, which had been assigned the task of investigating the whereabouts of Hitler after the Russians had taken Berlin.

Hitler's body had been placed in a shallow shell crater after being placed there by members of Hitler's bodyguard detail at approximately 15:40 on 30 April 1945. Petrol was poured on the bodies of Hitler and Eva Braun-Hitler and set alight. Several of the Fuehrerbunker Germans had told the Russians that his body was buried in the Chancellery garden - a search then uncovered the bodies of Hitler and Eva Braun-Hitler.

Hitler's charred body was placed in a wooden shell crate and transported to the Russian pathological lab in Berlin-Buch, which had been set up by pathologists of the 1st Belorussian Front. On 08 May 1945, the same day Europe celebrated V-E Day, the Russians, led by Chief Forensic Pathologist Dr Faust Sherovsky and Russian Anatomical Pathologist Major Anna Marantz, performed an autopsy on Hitler's body.

The Russians found that Hitler's body tissues contained trace amounts of compounds of cyanide, and concluded that Hitler had poisoned himself. The autopsy also noted that portions of Hitler's skull cap were missing from his skull.

However, most of the jawbone, with teeth intact, was with the skull. A dental assistant, Kaethe Hausermann, and a dental technician, Fritz Echtmann, were found in Berlin and divulged significant information about Hitler's dental bridge and teeth, as they had both worked for Hitler's dentist, Dr Hugo Blaschke. They were separated and held captive by the Russians. Hitler was positively ID'd through odontological comparison of the drawings from memory of Hitler's teeth and bridge made by Hausermann and Echtmann to the partial jawbone, bridge, and intact teeth in the skull. These drawings were a perfect match.

After the post-mortem examination, it was determined that Hitler would be moved along with the 79th SMERSH unit to their new headquarters in the city of Magdeburg. There, the bodies of Hitler and Eva Braun-Hitler were buried in an unpaved area at 30-32 Klausenerstrasse, Magdeburg. The bodies remained buried until 1970 when the KGB, who had assumed responsibility of the site from SMERSH (Soviet Military Intelligence), made the decision that the bodies would be unearthed for the last time, completely incinerated, and disposed of so that no parts or portions of Hitler could be used to raise Hitler to the status of martyrdom, etc.

End

--()--

<http://campbellmgold.com>

14072009/1