DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE
The History and Development of the Nazi Party and the "Germany Awake" Standards

by ULRIC OF ENGLAND
Assisted by Otto Sprock
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During the Third Reich Period and forward to the present time no item has become such a statement and symbol of Adolf Hitler's National Socialist state than the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard. Yet, strangely enough virtually no information has been available to the collector or researcher detailing the various types, quantities, and other facts relating to them. Even worse, very limited information has been available and much of it has been blatantly incorrect. To further exasperate this problem, very few original "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards or parts have surfaced in the post-war years which has meant that collectors and researchers have been unable to compare one against another.

Is it true that in the closing stages of the war secret orders were circulated to all Standarten stating that in no circumstances were "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards to fall into the hands of the allies. In the last 50 years very few "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards or parts have become available from allied war veterans or from sources inside Germany, and contrary to popular opinion, it is very doubtful if many or any fell into Soviet hands apart from the famous case of the Standard "Adolf Hitler"!

If such orders had been issued and adhered to, it would mean the destruction of the standard and as an absolute minimum the standard would have been deeply hidden from the the allies prying eyes. However, in the years of ongoing research by the author, no such order has ever been found although various German contacts have made mention of such an order's existence.

Of interest is that more "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards and, as is more frequently encountered, parts of standards, have become available to the collector and researcher over the last few years than in all the years since 1945.

The author has been researching the history of the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards since the mid-1980s. Due to the fact that almost no information has been available on these standards in the post-war years in 99% of cases the facts presented have been taken directly from pre-1945 documentation. This has lead to some amazing discoveries, the most amazing of which has to be the documentation found in the Bundersarchiv concerning Heinrich
Trambauer who was the original carrier of the “Blutfahne” at the November 9th Putsch and not Andreas Bauriedl, which is contrary to anything written in post-war books. (See chapter 14.)

As is usual with most research, the fact that this book is now completed does not mean that my research of “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHT” Standards is finished. I would be very interested to hear from anyone who might have additional information. Please contact me via Bender Publishing or direct at: Ulric of England, P.O. Box 285, Epsom, Surrey, KT17 2YJ, England.

CHAPTER 1
Origins of the Swastika Symbol

The ancient symbol of a hooked cross in various forms can be found in almost any culture since prehistoric times. The name swastika was derived from the Sanskrit word ‘Svasti’ meaning luck or blessings and for this reason the swastika emblem has long been associated with good luck. At the turn of the 20th Century the swastika emblem again became increasingly popular and an abundance of various styles of swastika were produced especially in silver and gold as fashionable items of jewelry.

An ancient clay vase bears a swastika emblem within a circle, made in light relief to the base.

A silver brooch in an “Art Nouveau” style bears the swastika emblem with Runic symbols which translated mean “May this brooch bring you luck.” The brooch was made by Ernst Murrle. (Circ. 1900.) Ernst Murrle was a German jeweler designer living in England. In 1884, he formed the company, Murrle, Bennett, & Co. In 1915 he was interned by the British Government.
A beautiful Christening cup and spoon set in silver with the immobile swastika emblem within a circle. This set was produced by the English firm of "Wilson & Gill" of Regent Street, London, in 1917.

The German Scholar, Jörg Lechler published a book in 1940 entitled Vom Hakenkreuz, die Geschichte eines Symbols (The Swastika, a History of the Symbol). This interesting book showed examples of swastikas used in almost every ancient civilization from known times.

Debits and Credits, by Rudyard Kipling was published in 1926 by MacMillan & Co., Ltd., in England. The blue cover carried a golden swastika along with an elephant head within a circle. The opening pages of the book also carried a stylized swastika emblem.
The swastika was also adopted by major institutions and companies as their logo. In England it became the logo for the "National War Savings Committee." A bookmark from the "National War Savings Committee." The bookmark was produced in 1917 and carries an immobile swastika.

In Germany, the Deutschvolkischen Blätter, published by the Deutschvolkischen Bund in Hamburg, adopted the swastika in January 1917 as a symbol to express their anti-semitism.

The "Thule-Gesellschaft" (a secret anti-semitic organization of the German Order) also utilized the swastika emblem. The "Thule-Gesellschaft" was founded in Bavaria by Rudolf Freiherr Von Sebottendorf in January 1918. The financial sources of the "Thule-Gesellschaft" are unknown but were very wealthy. The famous Hotel "Vier Jahreszeiten" in Münich was owned by the "Thule-Gesellschaft" and its rooms were at free disposal to the various nationalist groups such as the DAP (later known as the NSDAP).

Most likely what inspired Hitler to use the swastika as a symbol for the NSDAP was its use by the "Thule-Gesellschaft" since there were many connections between them and the DAP. Anton Drexler, the founder and Chairman of the DAP, was a member of the "Thule-Gesellschaft." Gottfried Feder and Dietrich Eckart were also active in this organization. The publishing house of Franz Eber Nachfolger G.m.b.H., which published the Völkischer Beobachter, was sold to the Nationalsozialistischen Arbeiterveren e.V. by the "Thule-Gesellschaft" on December 17th, 1920, for the price of 120,000 (paper) Marks.

From 1919 until the summer of 1921 Hitler used the special "Nationalsozialistische" library of Dr. Friedrich Krohn, a very active member of the "Thule-Gesellschaft," to establish and confirm his own ideas. Interestingly enough, Dr. Krohn was also the dentist from Starnberg who was named by Hitler in Mein Kampf as the designer of a flag very similar to one that Hitler designed in 1920.

Hitler, eager to find a powerful symbol for his movement, stated in the second part of Mein Kampf, "An effective symbol can give hundreds of thousands the first steps of interest toward a movement."

By 1920 Hitler had adopted the swastika symbol and in this same year utilized it as the centre design for a flag and armband.
CHAPTER 2

A History of the First Swastika Flag 1920-1922

Numerous designs of colors and symbols were considered for the first flag of the Hitler movement. Hitler states in Mein Kampf, “...most with the swastika drawn on the old German colors were not considered...a dentist from the village of Starnberg came with a similar design to my own but with one deviation—the hooks of the swastika were bent. In the meantime, I myself had found, after countless designs, the final form—a flag in bright red with a central white disc and in the middle a black swastika.”

After the decision was made to use this design, armbands similar to the flag were ordered for the “Ordnungsmannschaften” (embryo SA) and an enameled badge was made by the goldsmith, Josef Fuess. This badge had a red outer border, white centre, and black swastika. An inscription around the red enamel edge read: “National Sozialistische DAP.” An earlier design was produced by

Members of the 2nd Marine Brigade (Ehrhardt) distributing pamphlets on the Wilhelmstrasse, Berlin, during the Kapp-Putsch on March 13, 1920. Note the swastikas painted on the steel helmets.

This photograph shows the first flag being flown at the Tegernsee in the summer of 1920. It is the official photograph as used by the “Hauptarchiv der NSDAP.” This first flag is thought to have been sewn by the wife of Max Amann. Many of the flags constructed after this one had the static swastika until the early 1930s when the mobile swastika took precedence.
Fuess with the inscription: “Deutsche Arbeiter Partei.” These were probably never sold due to the Party’s name change on August 8, 1920 to “National Sozialistische Deutsche Arbeiter Partei.”

During the summer of 1920, the first Party flag was shown at Lake Tegernsee where a loyal feminine Party member had made it to the specified measurements and design laid down by Hitler. Some months later half a dozen of these home-made flags were used by the increasing number of Ordnungsmannschaften.

1920 was also the year the famous “Ortsgruppe München” flag was made. This flag was constructed on one side only and had a static black swastika on a white roundel. Above the roundel in Gothic white lettering was the word “Nationalsozialistische” and below, the words “Deutsche Arbeiterpartei München” all on a bright red background. One source states that the “Ortsgruppe München” flag was made by the first wife of Rudolf Schüssler, a former Feldwebel of Hitler’s regiment. The “Ortsgruppe München” flag was kept in the first Party office on the Sterneckerstrasse and the later Party office at 12 Corneliusstrasse, after which it was prominent in the collection room of the famous Rehse collection in the Residenz building. It is presumed that since most of the other “early” flags were not preserved, the “Ortsgruppe München” flag was generally regarded as the “first” flag of the Party.

The famous “Ortsgruppe München” flag. After being on display in the first two Party headquarters it was moved to the Residenz building and housed with many National-Socialist relics in the main collection room. In this photograph an individual looks at various National-Socialist relics housed in a cabinet. The “Ortsgruppe München” flag has been framed, glazed and hung on the wall.

After Hitler had taken over total power of the NSDAP in July 1921, one of his first circular letters was about the flags and armbands:

**September 17, 1921**

_The Ortsgruppen have the obligation to take care of the Ordnungstruppen at meetings, etc. All other Party members on duty, without exception, can be recognized as such by the wearing of the armband._

_The armband is a 10cm wide red cloth back with a 9cm diameter white disc on which a black swastika is positioned. Ortsgruppen,
which have no model, are commanded to ask the Party leadership for one.

All Ortsgruppen must have Party flags. The Party flags are rectangular red flags with the proportions 2:3 with a large white disc to the center bearing a black swastika. Any Ortsgruppen not having a model can get a drawing from the Party leadership.

The Party flags are to be shown at all public meetings, at the speaker's platform, at the hall entrance as well as at all public demonstrations.

This order of September 17, 1921 is recognized as the first regulations on flags of the NSDAP.

An early pre-“DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard from March 29, 1922 belonging to the NSDAP cell “Hannover” being carried at a local rally after Hitler's election in January 1933. The Ortsgruppe Hannover was founded on July 2, 1921 and was the first Ortsgruppe of the NSDAP in North Germany. The consecration of this banner took place in the main hall of the Hofbräuhaus in München on March 29, 1922.

The flag of Ortsgruppe Berlin was consecrated in secret in a cave of the Kalkberge in 1922. This flag had two embroidered panels with the words “Gott will den Kampf” (God wishes the struggle).

The NSDAP flag and the Imperial War flag being shown together in the early 1920s was not uncommon. In this group photo of participants of the March on Coburg on October 14/15, 1922, such a combination can be seen. Note the shape of the swastika on this early NSDAP flag. The majority of these flags were home-made at this time.
From 1920 to 1923 many home-made variations of the swastika flag were produced. This early flag belonged to “Ortgruppe Erlangen” and bears the white embroidered designation “National Socialistische Deutsche Arbeiter Partei” around the top half of the swastika roundel and “Ortgruppe Erlangen” to the lower half. This flag is thought to have been made in 1922.

“Mobile” and “immobile” swastika flags are paraded at the Marsfeld during the 1923 Parteitag. It should be noted that it was not mentioned in any regulations if the swastika was to be “mobile” or “immobile” until 1929 when specific orders were detailed in the “SA-Befehl SABE Fahnen, Standarten” dated June 28, 1929.

An early flag with 1923 commemoration date is proudly held by its SA bearer. Photo is circa 1930.

Additional early swastika flags in use, including a 1922 standard.
CHAPTER 3
The “Salzburg Erwache”
Standard of the DNSAP

In Austria Dr. Reihl founded a national socialist group in 1910, and in 1918 this group adopted the name “Deutschen Arbeiter Partei für Österreich” (German Workers Party in Austria). At a Parteitag held in Vienna on May 5, 1918 this name was officially changed to the “Deutsche Nationalsozialistische Arbeiter Partei” (German National Socialist Workers Party). The DNSAP which was extremely organized by 1920 had set up an interstate bureau which had offices in both Vienna and Czechoslovakia with the thought of bringing all Germanic nationalist groups together. It was this bureau that invited the cooperation of the Bavarian nationalists, the outcome of which meant that in 1920 the Bavarian “Deutsche Arbeiter Partei” adopted a similar title to the Austrian party, the “Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiter Partei” or NSDAP. This name change took place on August 8, 1920 after a special Parteitag held in Salzburg on August 7. This Parteitag was unique by bringing together Czechoslovakian, Austrian, and German national socialist groups.

Sometime between 1920 and 1922 the first flag for the DNSAP was made. It was manufactured in the typical manner of the old Austrian Imperial flags and bore the slogan “Salzburg Erwache” which had been cribbed from Dietrich Eckart’s poem “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE.” The flag cloth was red with a hand-painted circle in the centre, on which was an Austrian soldier with a rifle wearing the uniform from the 1914-18 war. At the base of the circle was a scroll with the “Salzburg Erwache” slogan along with a red/white/red shield (the Austrian national colors). Around the top of the circle were oak leaves retained by the traditional bands. In the right hand upper corner was an applied unit patch bearing the numbers 1/59. These numbers were embroidered in white cotton on a red wool patch with white cord edging. Around the edge of the flag were hand painted black and white triangles. The flag was nailed to a wooden staff with band decorations at intervals and bore a metal circular finial with a central swastika.

The origins of the 1/59 unit patch go back to the Salzburg-based Rainer Regiment. This Regiment was raised in 1682 under Emperor Leopold I as an Austrian Infantry Regiment. In 1769 the Regiment was given the number 59
The Regiment had 13 Colonels-in-Chiefs between 1682 and 1913, the last of which was Archduke Rainer who was the nephew of Emperor Franz Joseph I and became the 13th Colonel-in-Chief in 1852 until his death on January 27, 1913. On January 30, 1913, Emperor Franz Joseph I ordered that the 59th Imperial and Royal Infantry Regiment bear the name “Archduke Rainer” for all time. From that time on the Regiment had the official designation of the 59th Imperial and Royal Infantry Regiment “Archduke Rainer,” more commonly known as the “Rainer Regiment.”

The Regiment had fought throughout the 1914-18 war and was officially disbanded on November 12, 1918. Many soldiers of the disbanded “Rainer Regiment” joined the DNSAP (much like many German soldiers who in 1918 first joined the Freikorps and then the NSDAP). It was due to this transfer that the DNSAP flag carried the unit patch 1/59 as a tribute to the “59th Regiment Rainer” soldiers.

The “Salzburg Erwache” Standard is proudly held by its bearer at a Party Rally at Berchtesgaden 1932.
The “Deutschland Erwache” Flag of the 9th SA Hundertschaft “Au Giesing”

The flag of the 9th SA Hundertschaft was manufactured in 1922. In all probability it was produced after members of the 9th Hundertschaft had seen the “Salzburg Erwache” Standard of the DNSAP (there were excellent bonds between the Austrian DNSAP and, in particular, members of the Munich NSDAP). The flag shown below was made just before the creation of the well-known “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards, which would make it the first ensign of the Hitler movement to bear the slogan “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE!!”
The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" flag of the 9th SA Hundertschaft from Au Giesing, Munich.

Line drawing of the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard for the 9th SA Hundertschaft. The flag cloth is black. The detail on the flag is presumed to be hand-painted with the lion in shades of yellow and light brown, the scroll in white bearing the slogan "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE!" in black.¹

The 9th SA Hundertschaft was based in Au Giesing, a suburb of Munich. The flag was shown at the first Parteitag held in Munich in January 1923 and was carried at the time of the November 9th Putsch, but it is not known if it was confiscated by the police as was the fate of many other flags.

The flag cloth was black and the fine detail on the flag is presumed to be hand-painted with the lion in shades of yellow and light brown, the scroll in white bearing the "Deutschland Erwache!" slogan in black. On the top staff side corner of the cloth was a golden-yellow numeral "9" and below the lion the district name "Au Giesing." The staff was of black finished wood with a swastika finial (color unknown).

Various National-Socialist flags are displayed together at the 1923 Parteitag including the flag of the 9th SA Hundertschaft from Au Giesing.

The flag of the 9th SA Hundertschaft is marched through the streets of Munich during a yearly commemoration of the November 9th Putsch.

² "Vom 9 November 1918—Zum 9 November 1923," Albert Reich.
In 1922 Hitler had also utilized the slogan for his new standard. "Deutschland erwache" was beautifully embroidered to the front of the standard cloth.

Within the entire history of slogan making and slogan success, "Deutschland erwache" must rank as one of the most successful. From the period of the later 1930s Germany had truly awakened and the need to use the "Deutschland erwache" slogan diminished.

CHAPTER 5

Background to the "Deutschland Erwache" Slogan

THE SLOGAN "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" (GERMANY AWAKE)

Dietrich Eckart, one of the founding fathers of the National Socialist movement wrote a poem in 1920 entitled "Deutschland erwache!" which was to become more famous than Eckart could ever have imagined.

The title from Eckart's poem became a powerful slogan. Hitler utilized the "Deutschland erwache" slogan for his entire political campaign throughout the 1920s and especially leading up to the 1933 election. The slogan appeared on almost everything and anything!

Two young National Socialists pose in front of a framed print which bears the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE!" slogan. Both of them wear the new M1923 "Hitler Mütze." (Circa 1923.)

"Deutschland erwache!" This pen and ink drawing by the well-known National Socialist artist Mjölnir utilizes the slogan to great effect. Notice the stylized standards in the background.

VARIOUS ITEMS BEARING THE "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" SLOGAN

"DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" slogan enamel badge. Various enamel swastika lapel badges were available bearing different slogans. This badge is an 18mm version.
An SA electioneering team poses around a large publicity swastika on wheels bearing the slogan "Deutschland erwache." The photograph was taken in Bad Oeynhausen, 1930.

"DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" chain fob. These were attached to a pocket watch, etc. The slogan appears on the chain end. Size, omitting chain, is 95mm.

A pen manufactured during the early 1930s carries the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" slogan between immobile swastikas. The old Imperial German and National Socialist colors are also utilized. The pen is 195mm in length.

A heavy glass goblet bears a printed (screened) design of a Bavarian SA man holding a flag with a scroll at the bottom bearing the slogan "Deutschland erwache." (Circa early 1930s.)
CHAPTER 6

The Birth of the “Deutschland Erwache” Standard
(Extracted from Mein Kampf)

“Like a swarm of hornets they rushed forth upon the disturbers of our meeting, regardless of superiority of numbers, however great, care- less of wounds and bloody sacrifice, filled to the brim with the great idea, the holy mission to clear the way for our Movement.

As early as the summer of 1920 the troops for maintenance of order were gradually assuming definite form, and by the spring of 1921 they were divided by degrees into companies, which again were divided into smaller sections.

This had become urgently necessary, since in the meantime our activities as regards meetings had been continuously increasing.

The organization of our bodies of men for keeping order at meetings was the means of clearing up a very difficult question. Up till then the movement had possessed no Party token and no flag. The lack of these symbols was not only a disadvantage then, but it was intolerable in view of the future, since members of the Party had no distinctive token of membership, and for the future it was intolerable to be without some token in the nature of a symbol of the Movement which might be set against that of the Internationals.

Adolf Hitler

More than once in my youth the psychological importance of such a symbol had been clearly evident to me from the point of view of sentiment. In Berlin, after the War, I was present at a mass demonstration of Marxism in front of the Royal Palace. A sea of red flags, red scarves and red flowers gave an outward appearance of power to that crowd, which I estimated at about 120,000 persons. I felt and understood how easily the man in the street is impressed by the suggestive magic of such a grandiose piece of play-acting.

The bourgeoisie, which as a Party represents no world-theory, had therefore no banner. Their Party consisted of “patriots” and went about in the colors of the Reich.

The black/white/red of the old Empire was revived by our so-called national bourgeois Parties as their colors.

It is obvious that the symbol of a situation which might be defeated by Marxism under inglorious accompanying circumstances was worthless to serve as the token under which the same Marxism was to be crushed in its turn. However much any decent German must love and revere those old colors, glorious then placed side-by-side in their youthful freshness, when he had fought under them and seen the sacrifice of so many lives, that flag had little value for the struggles of the future.

This was the reason why we National Socialists recognized that to hoist the old standard would betoken no symbol which would express our special aims; for we had no wish to raise from the dead the ruined Empire with all its blemishes, but to build up a new State.

The Movement which today is fighting Marxism in this sense must bear on its banners the symbol of the new State.

I myself was always for keeping the old colors. After innumerable trials I settled upon a final form: a flag having a red ground with a white band across it bearing on its centre a black hooked cross. After much searching, I decided on the proper proportions between the size of the flag and that of the white band, and form and thickness of the cross; and it has remained so ever since.

Arms, also of the same were at once ordered for the men of the bodies for keeping order—red, with a white band and hooked cross.

The new flag first appeared in public in the middle of the summer of 1920.

Two years later, when our men, which had long amounted to several thousands, were now a considerable storm-detachment (Sturmbteilung), it appeared necessary to give the fighting organization of the new world-theory a special symbol of victory—a Standard.”

By early 1922 Hitler stated in Mein Kampf that his thoughts were to create a new standard, to be carried victoriously by the newly formed Sturmbteilung which at this time numbered several thousand.

In the mid-1922 Hitler went to Georg Hagl of “Kunststickerei M. Auer München,” George and Maria Hagl ran a small Munich business specializing in the manufacture of flags and banners for clubs and veterans organizations along with embroidery work for the church.

Hitler had based his idea for the new standard on the old standards of the Roman Legions. Hagl had shown Hitler a standard of the Leiber-Bund which had been loosely based on the old Roman standards; Hitler was enthusiastic about this.

The design for the banner had on the obverse a swastika in black with silver braids on a white silk roundel, sewn to a red silk cloth and utilized Eckart’s slogan “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE.” This was to be executed in fine hand embroidery with the word “DEUTSCHLAND” above the white silk roundel and below the roundel the word “ERWACHE.” Hitler had always wished to keep the colors of the old German empire of black, white, and red. Here in the new standard he kept to these colors with the wool fringes around the cloth finished in segments of black, white, and red. The reverse of the cloth maintained the same black swastika with silver braids on a white silk roundel, and utilized the designation “Nat. Soz. Deutsche Arbeiter Partei” above the roundel from the “Ortsgruppe München” flag of 1920. Below the roundel Hitler placed the word “Sturmabteilung,” his new political fighting force. The cloth hung from the standard by means of a black, white, and red tassel which came down each side of the standard top and looped around a wooden crosspole which ran through the top of the cloth. The metal parts were given to Party member Otto Gahr, an established Munich goldsmith, to produce.

The metal top was to be made with a golden eagle clutching a silver oak leaf wreath with golden cross bands. At the center of the wreath was a black swastika and a silver-finished metal box was to fit underneath with inset red enamel panels on the obverse and reverse. The obverse was to bear the designation N.S.D.A.P. in silver finished relief on the red panel and the reverse was to bear the name of the town or city also in silvered finished relief.
Es widerspricht mir, Stickerinnen, die zu und sehr Jahre bei mir tätig sind, den viel mehreren Stickerinnen-
Tarifhöhe zu ziehen, durch die das berühmte드리히 Stickerinnen-
Tariflohn bis ich aber für Arbeitnehmer nicht sehr konkurrenz-
fähige und kann solche Arbeiten fast nicht bekommen.
Wenn es mir nicht gelingt Arbeit zu bekommen, um ich Perso-
nal anstellen, das selbst geschaften bei mir tätig ist.

Persönlich bin ich Mitglied der R.S.B.A.F
meine ehelichen Familienmitglieder und das gesamte Personal
sind Mitglieder der Arbeitsfront.

Eine Stadtaufnahme und Nachricht von
der bestens stimmung, die Schriften bestimmt,
der Grundherr auf meine Weise, garantiert hat, dass er
sich und unbekannt, d.h. sichert, die schwarz-wassertoten
fransen und Gegenstände usw., alles genau nach Vorschrift.

Bitte nochmal um gute Bestellung
und verspreche Ihnen eine vollständige Ausführung.

Heil mein Führer!

9. April 1934

My Führer!

my coincidence I heard that now Standards for the
SA will be ordered and ask politely for you to give the embroidery
order again to me.

Perhaps you will remember that I made the first
standards and that you were many times in my shop because of these.
When you came to see me for the first time, I did make the suggestion
of making the Standards like the Roman campaign banners and showed
you the design of the so called Leiber-Bundes Banner, which I made
in 1914, enclosed is a photograph.

The design made you very enthusiastic and when you
asked me and explained that the artistic copyright was owned by me
and therefore was no problem to make a similar design, you decided
for this form.

I had drawings made after your specification, those
I still have in my possession, as also the copy of the first price
offer dated 18. October 1922 with the price of M. 44-45000 (inflation
marks 1) per Standard.

For the metal parts I gave Herr Gehr the drawings,
and he told me that he had altered the drawings after your specifi-
cations.

That I made "Hitler-Standards" I had to pay by loss
of business. This was used by my contemporaries and I lost the orders
of church choirs and had to change to only club banners. Those
orders are also now billing my the members of the Veteran-Marksman-
etc. clubs have joined the national associations.

One time I had in my service 40 to 50 women stitchers
and now I only have 2 or 3. Some of these stitchers, for long years
in my service, I had to retrain for machine-stitching, some for sewing.

Please turn 1

A translation of the original letter from Georg Haigl to Hitler. (*This photograph is lost.)
I don't like it to pay seamstresses, who are in my service for 20 years or more, the much lesser wages of sewing girls. As of the high wages for seamstresses I cannot complete in business anymore, the best of my orders are almost lost. When I have no success in getting new orders I have to dismiss servants who worked for me for many years.

I am a member of the N.S.D.A.P and S.A.R.I (SA Reserve II), the N.S.Hago, the N.S.B.O. and the N.S.R.K. My son in law is a member of the N.S.D.A.P. and is an SA-Mann. My family and the complete staff are members of the Arbeitsfront.

A Standard exact to your regulations, made from first class material, the text hand embroidered, I can supply for the price of M. 84.- The fabric is pure silk with the guarantee of air and water resistance without any additions. The silver trimmings, the black/white/red fringes and tassels etc. all precise after regulations.

Again I plea your order and promise the most careful execution.

Hail my Führer!
Georg Nagl.

Otto Michael Gahr was born in Munich on March 28, 1876 and married Karolina Schmidt on April 20, 1907. Originally, Otto Gahr had worked as an engraver in the business locality of St. Annenplatz 14/0 in Munich. Later in October 1915, Otto and Karolina moved into a modest house with a workshop at Mariannenstr. 3/3 in Munich where he set up his own business as a silversmith.

Otto Gahr had been an early supporter of Adolf Hitler joining the NSDAP on November 20, 1920. Adolf Hitler and Hermann Esser along with other Party comrades often visited Gahr's house where organization matters were sometimes discussed.

In the summer of 1922 Hitler had the idea of creating a standard for his SA units. Gahr was given the job of making the metal parts for these standards while another Munich-based business specializing in the manufacture of flags...
and standards (Kunststickerie M. Auer, München), hand-made the silk standard cloth, and presumably finished the standard with its wooden parts and the wool tassels.

Otto Gahr continued to manufacture the metal parts for the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard until his death on September 5, 1932. Hitler attended his funeral along with Gauleiter Adolf Wagner and many high Party members. He was buried at the Munich Ostfriedhof. After his death Frau Karolina Gahr continued the Gahr business. She had also been an early supporter of the NSDAP and held Party membership number 31, 075, and in 1934 she received the Golden Party Badge. Besides being a member of the NSDAP she also held membership in the NS-Frauenschaft, the DAF, the NS-Volkswohlfahrt, the NS-Kriegsopferversorgung, along with other Party-affiliated organizations.

Having been left with the Gahr business, Karolina Gahr maintained the supply of metal parts for the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards as well as producing other jewelry items. Between 1934 and 1944 the firm also produced nearly 15,000 Totenkopf rings for the SS which bore the engraved name of the SS officer inside.

In 1935 Karolina Gahr was commissioned by Hitler to produce a new Paul Casberg designed eagle and wreathed swastika finial for the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards of the NSKK and SS Motorstandarten along with the SS-Reiterstandarten, the first examples of which were to be consecrated at the 1935 Reichsparteitag. This newly designed finial bore the name "GAHR MÜNCHEN" along with the date 1935. (From 1933 onward many items produced by the Gahr workshop bore the name "GAHR MÜNCHEN" instead of the earlier "OTTO GAHR").

In 1936 the company was given the task of designing the newly awarded SS sword.

During 1937 the design of the basic 1935 eagle and wreathed swastika finial had to be altered slightly for the SA Reiter style "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards.

Many beautiful pieces of jewelry were produced by the firm of Gahr up to 1945, some as commissions to the SS and others as private commissions.

After 1945 the firm of Gahr carried on under the direction of Frau Gahr’s brother, Emil Schmidt. Karolina Gahr died in Munich on June 22, 1969.


Frau Karolina Gahr
Goldschmiedmeisterswitwe
im Alter von 88 Jahren.

München-Waldtrudering, In tiefer Trauer:
Dar-es-Salaam-Straße 14
Bosa und Franz Xaver Wolfart
im Namen aller Angehörigen
Gottesdienst: Dienstag, den 24. Juni 1969, um 7.15 Uhr in Christi Himmelfahrt
Beerdigung: Dienstag, den 24. Juni 1969, um 15 Uhr im Ostfriedhof
CHAPTER 8
The SA

THE BIRTH OF THE SA, NOVEMBER 4, 1921

On August 3, 1921 the NSDAP Party leadership decided to create the "Turn und Sportabteilung." The first regulations can be found in a circular dated September 10, 1921, NSDAP Rundschreiben nr. 4. It reads under paragraph 8: According to the decision made by the assembly of members the Party has created the organization "Turn und Sportabteilung." The goal of this organization is for the protection of meetings and demonstrations. Specific directions are to be given by the leader of the Turn und Sportabteilung, Herr Parteigenosse Klintzsch. Members of the Turn und Sportabteilung will be no younger than seventeen and no older than twenty-three. Acceptance of applications will be undertaken by the Ortsgruppen and their special training will follow by Parteigenosse Klintzsch.

The banner of the 1. Turn- und Sportabteilung der NSDAP 1921 with its original bearer, Alois Weiss, in 1934. The banner is the normal Imperial War flag with fringes on three sides.

The name "Sturmbteilung" (abbreviated as "SA") was given to the "Turn und Sportabteilung after a brawl with communists during a NSDAP meeting in the Hofbräuhaus (beerhall) in Munich on November 4, 1921.

Leaders of the SA 1921-1945

Leutnant Hans Ulrich Klintzsch was the first commander of the newly formed Sturmbteilung or "SA." On November 4, 1921 he officially became the first OSAF (Oberste SA-Führer). Klintzsch commanded the SA from this date until March 1923 at which time command was given to Hermann Göring. After the November 9th Putsch of 1923 the SA and NSDAP were officially banned by the government of the day.

Leutnant Hans Ulrich Klintzsch, the organizer of the Turn- und Sportabteilung. From November 4, 1921 he became the first OSAF (Oberste SA-Führer) until Hermann Göring took over in March 1923.

In April 1924, Ernst Röhm, a former professional soldier, was charged with the reconstruction of the (officially, still illegal) SA. In an attempt to get around the government ban, Röhm founded an organization known as the Frontbann, basically the SA under another name. In February 1925 the SA was once again legalized, and Röhm was formally appointed its commander. Tensions with Hitler led to his rapid departure in May of that year.

From May 1925 to November 1926 the local Gauleiters controlled their SA units. This anarchic situation was not to Hitler's liking, and in November 1926 Hitler placed Franz von Pfeffer as commander of the SA. Von Pfeffer held the post until August 1930 at which time he resigned from this position.

Hermann Göring, leader of the SA from March 1923 until November 1923.

1 Hauptmann Franz Felix von Pfeffer von Salomon (known as von Pfeffer) had been a North German Freikorps commander. Von Pfeffer was chosen by Hitler as commander of the SA as he was well known in North Germany and as such could help to bring full control of the Northern SA units to Hitler. (These northern SA units resisted aligning themselves with the Bavarian leader.)
On January 5, 1931 Ernst Röhm returned from Bolivia, where he had been serving as an advisor to the Bolivian Army, at Hitler's suggestion to take over the entire command of the SA and SS under the new title of Stabschef (Hitler retained supreme command of the SA and SS under the title of Oberster SA-Führer). On June 30, 1934, during what is now known as the Röhm purge, Röhm was relieved of all duties and was executed on July 1 for treasonous acts. Hitler appointed Viktor Lutze as the new Stabschef of the SA on June 30, 1934.

On July 20, 1934 the SS was officially separated from the SA with Reichsführer-SS Heinrich Himmler as its head. At the 1934 Reichsparteitag, where both Hitler and the new Stabschef Lutze spoke publicly to the SA for the first time since the Röhm purge, 126 new SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards were consecrated giving the SA a total of 316 standards. At the same time the newly separated SS was awarded 75 "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards, the most they would ever receive at one Reichsparteitag. Along with the eight standards awarded to them in 1933, this gave them a total of 83 standards.

The SA had grown enormously from its beginnings in 1921 with a mere handful of men headed by Leutnant Hans Ulrich Klintzsch. Stabschef Viktor Lutze headed an organization of over three million men spread throughout Germany.

2 Röhm had alienated himself from the Reichswehr by wanting to combine the Reichswehr with the SA to hasten a so-called "National-Socialist revolution." Such power plays were considered dangerous by the Reichswehr generals who put pressure on Hitler to do something about it. It had also become obvious by what Röhm had said that he was happy to continue this "revolution" with or without Hitler.

3 It was due to the loyalty of the SS to Hitler and their help in putting down the rebellion of the SA (restricted mostly to SA commanders loyal to Röhm) that Hitler officially separated the SS from the SA.
Stabschef Lutze commanded the SA competently during its difficult times after the Röhm purge and throughout the 1930s, an era which saw both the SS and the Motor-SA separated from the SA. The Motor-SA was put under the command of Adolf Hühnlein with the new title of National-Socialistisches Kraftfahrkorps or "N.S.K.K."

Lutze died in an automobile accident on May 3, 1943 and was given a full state funeral. Upon his death, command of the SA was given to Wilhem Scheppmann who had held various posts including SA Commander of Group Saxony. Scheppmann commanded the SA until 1945.

THE 1923 PARTEITAG

In 1922 Hitler planned a Party Rally which was to be held at the Marsfeld on the outskirts of Munich on January 27, 28, and 29, 1923. This was to be the largest rally held to that time by the NSDAP. Five thousand SA men were to come to Munich from all over Bavaria. Marches of the SA and Party supporters were planned to be held in the streets of Munich and mass meetings were to take place in twelve halls. The Party had hired the halls in advance, and musical bands and traditional dance groups (to increase popular appeal). This Parteitag was to be all-important as Hitler's first four "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards were to be consecrated on the Marsfeld along with other NSDAP flags.

Upon hearing rumors of a Putsch the government became increasingly worried about this large NSDAP rally. Quickly, they issued a ban against the outdoor ceremony of consecrating the standards and flags of the NSDAP and
Council of Ministers. They proclaimed a “State of Emergency” which automatically banned all the activities planned for the Party rally.

Hitler had one last card up his sleeve. The Reichshehr, who were sympathetic to the National-Socialists, were commanded by the Bavarian General von Lossow. Hitler arranged for Röhm and Ritter von Epp to persuade von Lossow to meet with Hitler to discuss the situation. The meeting did indeed take place and went well for Hitler.

After the meeting, von Lossow informed the government that he considered “The suppression of the Nationalist organizations unfortunate for security reasons.” The ban was subsequently lifted. However, at a second meeting demanded by Commissioner Nortz with Hitler, Nortz requested that the number of meetings in Munich still be six instead of twelve and, secondly and more importantly, Hitler was to stage the consecration of the standards and flags inside the “Krone Circus” and not outside on the Marsfeld.

Hitler vaguely indicated compliance with the requests of Nortz. Then under the slogan “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE,” he held all twelve mass meetings and the consecration of the first four “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards and NSDAP flags as originally planned on the Marsfeld amidst the typical January snowy weather.

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5 Source material: “Dokumente der Zeitgeschichte,” Adolf Dresler; Maier-Hartmann; “Hitler” Joachim Fest.
Sunday, January 28, 1923. The first four “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards at the Marsfeld are officially consecrated.
History and Origins of the First Four "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards

The first four "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards were introduced for the first time at the 1st Parteitag held in January 1923. These Standards bore the names: 1) "München," 2) "München II," 3) "Landshut," 4) "Nürnberg." The "München II" standard was seized by police on July 15, 1923 and was not returned until after the NSDAP assumed power in 1933. The other three standards continued to be carried during meetings and during the march to the Feldherrnhalle on November 9, 1923. In 1926 a special commemorative patch was added to the cloths of these three standards.

The standards of "München" and "München II" were kept at the Braune Haus after its restoration. "Landshut" and "Nürnberg" were kept at their respective NSDAP town headquarters.

Head of the NSDAP Archive, F.J.M. Rehse, researches confiscated flags and banners just after January 30, 1933. The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "München II" was among the confiscated flags and banners.

In July 1942 "München II" had its name changed to "Fritz Todt." The other three retained their original names until 1945. Their post-war fate is still unknown.

The standards of "München" and "München III" in the Braune Haus. At some time "München II" had been replaced by "München III."
The special badge awarded to three of the first four standards

Of the first four “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards, “München II” was seized by the police during a brawl at the “Deutsches Turnfest” on July 15, 1923. This standard, confiscated by police, was not returned to the NSDAP until Hitler achieved power in 1933. The remaining three standards, “München,” “Landshut,” and “Nürnberg,” all of which had taken part in the 1st Party Rally in January 1923 and also in the failed Putsch of November 9, 1923, received a special distinguishing cloth badge which was sewn to the left hand corner of the standard cloth. This badge read: “27.1.23 MARSFELD MÜNCHEN 9.11.23.” and was silver hand-embroidery on a black velvet backing. This unique honor for these three standards took place on Sunday, July 4, 1926, the first Party Rally of the reformed Party held at Weimar.6

An enlarged illustration of the special badge which was sewn to the left hand corner of the cloth on three of the first four “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards—“München,” “Landshut,” and “Nürnberg.”

The special cloth badge given to three of the first four standards, “München,” “Landshut,” and “Nürnberg.” This photographed example is of the “Landshut” cloth.

Details from the period magazine Uniformen-Markt of January 1, 1937 concerning the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards. It states: “The oldest standards have a small silver on black cloth shield mounted to the left hand bottom corner. It carries silver wording, “27.1.23 MARSFELD-MÜNCHEN 9.11.23.”

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6 “Vom 9th November 1918, Zum 9th November 1923.” by Albert Reich (published 1933), pg. 85 details this special badge to be awarded at Weimar 1926.
"DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards of Munich pass through the streets. The "München" standard clearly shows the special patch at the bottom left hand corner of the cloth. Note also the small shield device on the lower staff section of the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Oberland."

The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "München" is assembled after being transported to the 1931 SA-Treffen in Brunswick.

Both of these photographs of the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "München" were taken in 1926, the first showing the NSDAP side of the box and the other the "München" side. Note the poor condition of the standard after just three years. During the 1920s the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard was an obvious choice for communist stone throwing, etc., during street fights. The very poor condition of the white silk roundel is particularly evident. It is known that on at least one occasion the standard had to be returned to Gehr's workshop for repair. The same must have been true for many of the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards presented during the "Kampfzeit."
The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "München." This photograph from the 1930s shows the deterioration of the box during its first ten years of existence.

The "München II" standard is carried by a member of the Schützenstandarte I during the 1934 Reichsparteitag. In July 1942 the Schützenstandarte I was awarded the name "Fritz Todt" and as such the box on their standard was changed from "München II" to "Fritz Todt."

The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Nürnberg" at the 1927 Reichsparteitag. Note the special patch mounted slightly higher than on "München" and "Landshut."

The "Nürnberg" standard at a rally held in 1933.
The variation “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” standards of Straubing and Passau

After Hitler’s consecration of the first four “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards in January 1923, two other NSDAP cells are known to have produced their own version of the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard. These were the NSDAP cells in Straubing and Passau, both in Bavaria not far from Landshut. Both standards had certain similarities, these being in the wording on the cloths and the method of affixing to the staff with a horizontal top retaining bar. It is believed that both of these variations were manufactured in early 1923.7

The “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard of Straubing

The double-sided cloth is of red silk with a bullion wire fringe on two sides. The fringe and other wire embroidery on the cloth is in fine silver wire. The top edge of the cloth has seven silvered metal spring clips which clip onto seven rings on the horizontal silver metal retaining bar. On the staff edge are four fine silver brocade loops that go around the wooden staff.

The obverse of the cloth has a white silk disc and a black cotton-silk, woven mobile swastika in the center. The white silk disc has a silver brocade edged border on either side of the disc and a beautiful hand-embroidered oak-leaf twig with leaves and acorns in silver wire. Above the disc is the abbreviation “N.S.D.A.P.” and below the town name “Straubing,” again in silver wire. In the upper left corner is the town-arms of Straubing, which consists of two Bavarian shields in white and blue cotton-silk and finished with black edgings, along with a plough which is in golden wire with white and black cotton-silk. This work is embroidered onto fine red velvet in the form of a stylized shield and is edged in golden wire.

The beautiful town of Straubing. This photograph was taken in the early 1920s about the time the local NSDAP cell had their own “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard made. The town still looks the same today.

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7 It is of course feasible that these standards could have been manufactured before 1923. (Neither the Straubing Stadt Archiv or the Passau Stadt Archiv had any information relating to them.)
The reverse of the cloth has a white silk disc and a black cotton-silk, woven mobile swastika in the center. The white disc has a silver brocade border. On either side of the disc is a hand-embroidered oakleaf twig with leaves and acorns in silver wire. Above and below the disc is the slogan “Deutschland erwache!” which is also finished in silver wire.

The wooden staff is presumed to have had a nickel-silver spear-shaped finial.

The cloth from this standard was taken to the U.S.A. after W.W. II as “war booty.” It is now in the “Ulric of England” collection.
The Straubing Town-Arms

The history of the Straubing town-arms goes back to the 1200s. During the time from the 1200s to present it has undergone various changes. Originally, this small farming community used just the plough as its town-arms. Later it incorporated the state-arms of Bavaria and then in the 1750s a “Fleur-de-lis” was introduced. During the 1920s the Straubing NSDAP cell dropped the “Fleur-de-lis” and went back to the earlier design. It was obviously due to the violent anti-French feeling prevalent among German nationalists at this time that the symbolically French “Fleur-de-lis” emblem was removed. After the collapse of the Third Reich in 1945 Straubing reintroduced the “Fleur-de-lis” emblem to its town-arms.³

Note: The Straubing “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard cloth is illustrated in color in Chapter 29, pages 403-404.

³ Straubing Staats Archiv.
The Straubing Spitaltor dating from 1628. This surviving medieval entrance to the town bears the style of coat-of-arms that was adopted for use on the Straubing "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard.

The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard of Passau

The double-sided cloth is of white silk with a bullion wire fringe on two sides. The fringe is presumed to be in silver wire. The top edge of the cloth is attached to the horizontal retaining bar by means of metal spring clips or more likely by a second horizontal bar which runs through a stitched tunnel in the top of the cloth (much in the same style as the later NSKK standards). The staff edge of the cloth has five metal rings that go around the wooden staff.

The obverse of the cloth has a red square, set on its points, on the white silk cloth and in the center is a white disc with a black static swastika which has silver braid framing the edges. Above the white disc, set on either side of the red square is the slogan "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" and below the disc on either side are the words "NSDAP PASSAU." This wording is in either white silk or fine silver wire. In the left upper corner is the town-arms of Passau, a red rampant wolf embroidered directly into the white silk cloth. The reverse of the cloth is presumed to be a mirror image of the obverse.

The wooden staff had a nickel-silver, spear-shaped finial. This standard is also known to have had a foul weather cover for the cloth.

The current whereabouts of the Passau "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard is not known, if indeed it still survives. The information has been put together from the careful study of surviving photographs showing it being carried.

A march through the streets of Passau sometime in 1923. The Passau variation "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard heads the march.
Interim Standard of 1924

On the same date as the failed Putsch of November 9, 1923, the General State Commissar issued an order dissolving the NSDAP and stipulated heavy penalties for anyone attempting to carry on the work of the Party. On the following day the police searched the headquarters of the NSDAP in the Corneliusstrasse and confiscated everything they could lay their hands on. Hitler had been arrested a few days after the Putsch and would not be released until December 20, 1924.

It was during this difficult period that Julius Streicher tried his best to keep the banned NSDAP together as a unit. To evade the ban he set up a “new” Party—the “Völkischer Freiheits-Bewegung” (Peoples Freedom Movement)—and a new standard using the swastika symbol (which had not been banned) along with the “new” Party name, “Völkischer Freiheits-Bewegung.” This richly decorated standard cloth had a simple staff with spear head finial.

It was not until January 1925 that the official ban was lifted on the NSDAP, and on February 27, 1925, in the Bürgerbräu Keller in Munich, Hitler

The Passau Town-Arms

The town of Passau has had a town-arms since the 1200s. The design has always remained the same and consists of a red rampant wolf on a white shield. This design used from the 1200s was designed by the Bishop of Passau, Wolfgar von Erla.9

assembled the Party faithful to re-establish the NSDAP. After re-establishment of the NSDAP, the "interim" "Volkischer-Freiheits-Bewegung" was dissolved. Its sole purpose of holding together the NSDAP during its period of ban had been achieved.

No information has come to light concerning the history of the "Volkischer-Freiheits-Bewegung" Standard after 1925. It is presumed that it would have been kept by the Hauptarchiv of the NSDAP. Its survival or whereabouts after 1945 are at present unknown.

Organizational Breakdown of the SA

The "Deutschland Erwache" Standard of SA Standarte "Feldherrnhalle" SA-Wachstandarte "Feldherrnhalle" was formed on December 12, 1935 at the instruction of Stabschef Viktor Lutze. The Wachstandarte's name, "Feldherrnhalle," gave an insight of the proposed importance of this new unit, the Feldherrnhalle being the revered monument in Munich where the November 9 Putsch had taken place.

Initially, Wachstandarte "Feldherrnhalle" was utilized as a guard for the Stabschef himself. Shortly thereafter, this newly formed unit was to become the showpiece of the SA. Under the overall command of SA-Brigadeführer
On Sunday, September 13, 1936 at the annual Reichsparteitag, SA-Standarte “Feldherrnhalle” was awarded its own “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard bearing the name “Feldherrnhalle” on the box.

“Feldherrnhalle” also received their own gorget which was worn by all members of the Standarte apart from the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard bearer who wore the original 1929 pattern SA gorget. The standard bearer’s bandolier was of brown leather with a heavy silver brocade Tresse applied and carmine red wool in the center.

On January 12, 1937 Stabschef Viktor Lutze, with Hitler’s agreement, appointed SA-Oberruppenführer Hermann Göring as honorary Commander-in-Chief of SA-Standarte “Feldherrnhalle” to celebrate Göring’s 44th birthday. Göring transferred control of the SA-Standarte over to his Luftwaffe and immediately set about giving them dual insignia of the SA and also the Luftwaffe. He involved them in intensive military training including instruction as parachutists.

In September 1939 the Standarte “Feldherrnhalle” transferred into Fallschirmjäger Rgt. 2 and also made up Infantry Battalion “Feldherrnhalle” of Infantry Rgt. 271. Both units fought well. One company of Infantry Battalion “Feldherrnhalle” fighting with Rgt. 271 on the Russian Front were wiped out to the last man when they refused to surrender or retreat. This company bore the name “Horst Wessel.”

On August 9, 1942 Hitler changed the status of Infantry Rgt. 271 to Grenadier-Rgt. “Feldherrnhalle.” Giving the Regiment the name of one of its battalions gives some indication of the bravery of Battalion “Feldherrnhalle.”

While having regimental status, Feldherrnhalle carried both their old “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard and also an army infantry regimental standard. On many occasions the two standards were uniquely paraded together.

On June 20, 1943 the renamed Grenadier Regiment “Feldherrnhalle” became Panzer-Grenadier Division “Feldherrnhalle.” Its new divisional status was required as the 60th Infantry Division had been destroyed at Stalingrad. Panzer-Grenadier-Division “Feldherrnhalle” was destroyed during the Summer of 1944 with the collapse of Army Group Centre. Until that time it had fought with distinction on the Russian Front.
SA-Reiter “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards

The SA-Reiter “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard was introduced at the 1937 Reichsparteitag where 20 of the 30 SA-Standards consecrated were SA-Reiter standards. At the 1938 Reichsparteitag 42 SA standards were consecrated of which 15 were SA-Reiter Standards.

The standard for SA-Reiter differed from other “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards, the biggest difference being that the cloth was rolled around the staff and nailed. A special, light metal frame, held in position from the back of the finial, held the cloth horizontal by means of small clips attached to brass rings on the cloth. The cloth itself did not have a Standarte patch in the corner, instead a streamer tied to the top of the finial funnel and dropping down as two separate streamers bore the Standarte number and the awarded name where applicable.

*Uniformen-Markt* July 1, 1937 details the “new” SA-Reiter Standard and mentions that it has been designed by the famous Paul Casberg.

Details of the SA-Reiter “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards presented at the 1937 and 1938 Reichsparteitage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Standarte</th>
<th>1937 Reiter Standarte</th>
<th>Gruppe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Oberfranken</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>Bayerische-Ostmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Berlin II</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Berlin-Brandenburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Frankenland</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>Franken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Schwerin II</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Hansa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Main-Lahn</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>Hessen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Rheinpfalz</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>Kurpfalz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Stendal</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>Mitte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Düsseldorf-Land</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Niederrhein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Lüneburger Heide</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Niedersachsen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Isarnho</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>Nordmark</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Artland</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>Nordsee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Samland</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ostland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Küstrin</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Ostmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Stettin</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Pommern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Leipzig IV</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Sachsen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Annaberg O/S</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Schlesien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Mittlebaden</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>Südwest</td>
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<tr>
<td>18. Langensalza</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>Thüringen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Hermannsland</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Westfalen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Deutsches Eck</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Westmark</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1938

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Standarte</th>
<th>1938 Reiter Standarte</th>
<th>Gruppe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Giessen</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>Hessen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Harz-Börde</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>Mitte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Köln-Land</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>Niederrhein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Wagrien</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Nordmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Hannover</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>Niedersachsen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Altivator 117 Schlesien
7. Labes II 108 Pommern
8. Ostmark 133 Sachsen
9. Hennerdorf 19 Schlesien
10. Langfuhr 155 Ostmark
11. Hocher-Jagst 62 Thüringen
12. Unterwasser 23 Westfalen
13. Ostmark 44 Thüringen
14. Thüringer-Wald 68 Westfalen

Hitler consecrates the SA-Reiter Standard “Rote Erde” which has been awarded to the 68th SA-Reiter Standarte. The bearer has turned the Standard around so that the cloth is facing towards Hitler. 1938 Reichsparteitag.
Accoutrements worn by SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard
Bearers 1923-1945

Uniforms worn by the bearers of the first “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards

At the same time the design for the new “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard was put into production in late 1922, Hitler sought to put a degree of uniformity into the newly created SA. The new uniform was to consist of a kepi and a wind-jacket bearing the swastika armband. These were designated as the M1923 kepi and M1923 windjacket. The kepi and windjacket were officially worn for the first time at the 1923 Parteitag.

By the time of the November 9, 1923 Putsch the vast majority of the SA was wearing this “uniform.” Many years after the failed Putsch Hitler set up an “Office for November 8/9, 1923” which dealt with all records relating to the Putsch and the annual commemoration to the Martyrs of November 9 held from 1933. The “uniform” was given “traditional uniform” status. Those who had taken part in the Putsch and still owned their “uniform” had the right to wear it at the yearly commemoration. Those who had lost their “uniform” could borrow one from the “Office of 8/9 November” for the period of the commemoration and then return it.

The M1923 Kepi

Produced in a grey-colored material it had a scalloped front held by two small buttons. The kepi did not have any form of chinstrap and the only insignia worn on it was normally the national cocade.

The M1923 Windjacket

Produced in a grey-colored material, it had a collar which could be worn open or closed. The front had four groups of two buttons. Above the “belt-line” was one pocket on each side with a simple flap and button, and below the “belt-line” was one pleated pocket on each side with flap and button. On the back of the windjacket was a single, grey-colored belt sewn into the side seams allowing the jacket to be tightened or loosened by two buttons.
The proposed 1923 "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard Bearers Helmet by Otto Gahr

Upon the manufacture of the first four "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards in 1923 it is believed that Hitler and Gahr discussed and worked on drawings for a special helmet to be worn by the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard bearers at the first 1923 Parteitag. The design of this helmet was reminiscent of the old Imperial German "Garde du Corps" helmets. Gahr's original sketches show a 1914-1918 pattern German helmet with an attached large eagle on wreathed swastika.

This photograph taken in the workroom of Otto Gahr shows the eagle section for a standard along with sketches of the proposed "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard bearers helmet.

The 1929 Nürnberg badge utilizing the Gahr design as the central motif of the badge.

Although the idea of a standard bearers helmet was never adopted it is interesting to note that this design by Gahr was utilized in 1929 as the main feature of the Nürnberg 1929 Parteitag badge.

The 1929 Pattern SA/SS Gorget for Standard Bearers

This example is still in its original heart-shaped box.

There is always a photograph which will prove "the exception to the rule." In this instance, the bearer of the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Hannover" wears a gorget other than the familiar SA 1929 pattern. It is unknown what design of gorget he is wearing.

13 See "The SS" chapter for an excellent period photo showing the wear of the 1929 pattern SA/SS gorget.
The Special SA-Reiterstandarte Gorget

With the first consecrations of the new SA-Reiterstandarte Standards in 1937, these units of the SA were also given their own unique gorget. This SA-Reiterstandarte standard bearer's gorget was similar in design to the 1929 pattern SA gorget with a relief eagle and swastika motif on a starburst. This gilt starburst was affixed to the nickel-silver gorget, the design of which was angular rather than the heart-shaped 1929 pattern. This gorget had gilt acorn emblems in relief at the top corners. The neck chain was radically different from the 1929 pattern and consisted of linked discs bearing the SA Rune in relief, finished in nickel-silver.

A member of SA-Reiterstandarte 35, Leipzig IV, wears the special Reiter gorget. Note the knee length leather bandolier utilized by the Reiter-SA standard bearers and also the standard streamers, one of which bears the "Standarte 35" dedication, the other the Standarte's awarded name "Leipzig IV." This standard was consecrated at the 1937 Reichsparteitag.

A photograph taken of a surviving example of the special SA-Reiterstandarte gorget. Just beneath it to the left is the conventional 1929 pattern gorget for comparison. This gorget was part of the Peter Pletinck collection. (USA)
Bandoliers worn by SA Standard Bearers

The SA bandolier originates from 1923 and was worn by the bearers of the first four "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards. This 1923 pattern bandolier was based on a bandolier utilized by many different factions that carried standards at this time, ranging from religious groups to political groups, etc. In fact, it is quite possible that these original bandoliers worn by the bearers of the first standards were stock items that were simply purchased from a flag and accessories stocklist.

It was of simple construction in dark brown leather. The length of leather that went around the bearer had a single adjuster (for different heights of standard bearers) and went around and under the pouch to provide additional strength to take the weight of the standard. This 1923 pattern bandolier remained unchanged and was worn throughout the 1920s and 1930s.12

The 1923 pattern SA standard bearers bandolier. Of simple construction, it was in brown leather and had a single adjuster for length. The leather went around and under the pouch to provide additional strength to take the weight of the standard. Circa 1934.

Note the unusual, stylized buckle on the bandolier worn by the SA man to the left of the picture.

This photograph of the Berlin-SA taking part in a propaganda march to the Sportspalast on November 5, 1937 shows the 1923 type SA leather bandolier still being used.

12 Some variations of this leather bandolier have been noted in photographs.
The SA brocade bandolier was introduced at the 1938 Reichsparteitag. It had a backing of brown leather to which was affixed leather in the color of the specific SA Gruppe. Over the colored leather was machine-sewn brocade of either silver aluminum or gold (again dependent on the SA Gruppe button color of silver or gold). A hidden adjustment for length was at the bearers back. This brocade portion ended above the pouch which was of heavy leather and machine-sewn to a leather flap. A nickel-silver metal ring was also mounted in this area to help support the weight of the standard.

### SA Bandolier colors broken down by Gruppe/late 1938–early 1939

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gruppe</th>
<th>Color of Brocade</th>
<th>Color of Leather Center</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ostland</td>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>Dark wine-red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westfalen</td>
<td>Aluminum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niederrhein</td>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berlin-Brandenburg</td>
<td>Aluminum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ostmark</td>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>Pinkish-red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Südmark</td>
<td>Aluminum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pommern</td>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>Apple-green</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thüringen</td>
<td>Aluminum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westmark</td>
<td>Aluminum</td>
<td>Dark-brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niedersachsen</td>
<td>Gold</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sachsen</td>
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<td>Emerald</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nordmark</td>
<td>Gold</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Orange-yellow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Südwest</td>
<td>Gold</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schlesien</td>
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<td>Sulfur-yellow</td>
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<td>Franken</td>
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<td>Steel-green</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warthe</td>
<td>Aluminum</td>
<td>Cornflower-blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standarte “Feldherrnhalle”</td>
<td>Aluminum</td>
<td>Crimson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SA-Reiter Bandoliers**

At the 1937 Reichsparteitag the first SA-Reiter standards were consecrated. These SA-Reiter standard bearers wore a brown leather bandolier very similar in construction to the type worn by “center-hanging” cloth standard bearers. This bandolier also had the single adjuster allowing some alteration for length but was of greater length overall which allowed the standard to be carried from knee height.

At the 1938 Reichsparteitag SA-Reiter personnel also received a new brocade bandolier. This bandolier took the same form as that of the “center-hanging” cloth type standard bearers bandolier but had an elongated leather flap with pouch which gave additional length allowing the standard to be carried from knee height.
Gloves worn by SA Standard Bearers

No regulations have been found concerning the practice of SA standard bearers wearing gloves. It was a rare occurrence, however, when weather conditions necessitated the wearing of gloves; various patterns have been noted: 1) White gloves, 2) White gauntlets (but exceptionally rare for the SA), 3) Dark brown or black gloves, 4) Dark brown or black gauntlets.

It is probable that the decision of which gloves were to be worn was made by the Führer of the Standarte, and was probably dependent on funds available within that Standarte. It would appear from photographs that whichever gloves were chosen, they were worn by the whole unit which discounts the possibility of it being the wearer’s choice.
CHAPTER 9

The SS

THE BIRTH OF THE SS AND ITS LEADERS (1921-1945)

The origins of the SS go back to March 1923 when a “Stabswache” (Headquarters Guard) was created for the purpose of protecting Hitler. In May 1923 Hitler formed a new bodyguard unit entitling it “Stosstrupp Adolf Hitler” (Assault Troop Adolf Hitler). The commander of “Stosstrupp Adolf Hitler” was Josef Berchtold. This Stosstrupp remained small with its number always being under fifty men.

The standard bearers behind Gruppenführer Viehhöchst wear dark brown or black gauntlets (similar in style to those worn by the NSKK). (Photograph taken in Frankfurt, November 1942.)

This standard bearer wears what appears to be dark brown or black leather gloves.

“Stosstrupp Adolf Hitler” on a march during 1923. Josef Berchtold, its commander, is seen at the front. It is interesting to note that the old “Reichskriegsflag” is carried at the front while a “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard is carried further down the line of marchers.

After the November 9 Putsch, the SA and “Stosstrupp Adolf Hitler” were banned. Berchtold, its commander, managed to escape to Austria and remained in exile there while Hitler and many of his followers were incarcerated in Landsberg Prison.
In February 1925 the NSDAP was re-formed, but the Bavarian SA was still banned (this ban did not extend to all states of Germany). It was in April 1925 that Hitler ordered the former member of “Stosstrupp Adolf Hitler” (and now Hitler’s chauffeur) Julius Schreck to form a new guard unit. Two weeks after the initial request, Schreck formed a new headquarters guard and re-christened it “Schutzstaffel” (Protection Squad) or “SS.”

Initially the new “SS” consisted of only eight men most of whom had previously been members of the “Stosstrupp Adolf Hitler.” Schreck, however, had devised a plan to set up “SS” units throughout Germany. A circular was sent out in September 1925 which called on Party groups to set up “Schutzstaffeln.” These were to be small elite squads of ten men and one commander, made up of respected young men in their communities and loyal to Adolf Hitler. By January 1926 Schreck’s idea had worked and the “SS” established itself on a national level.

Josef Berchtold, the original commander of “Stosstrupp Adolf Hitler,” returned to Germany from exile in Austria and in April 1926 took over command of the “SS” from Schreck. On July 4, 1926, at the Party Rally held at Weimar, Hitler gave the “Blood Flag” to the “SS” and proclaimed the “SS” as his elite organization.

Hitler placed Hauptmann Franz Pfeffer von Salomon as commander of the SA (Oberste SA-Führer) throughout Germany on November 1, 1926. A condition of Pfeffer taking the position was that the “SS” was also placed under the overall authority of the appointed “Oberste SA-Führer.” Hitler agreed to this needing Pfeffer’s influence over the North German SA.

Berchtold took the new title of “Reichsführer-SS” as commander although his power had been undermined by having his “SS” subordinated to the SA. Berchtold tried to keep the SS as independent as possible from the manoeuvring of the SA and also from Party officials, but this became more difficult when the SA increased its numbers still further. Berchtold then resigned.

In March 1927 Erhard Heiden, Berchtold’s deputy, was appointed Reichsführer-SS. Heiden held this post until January 6, 1929. SS-Oberführer
Heinrich Himmler was given the appointment of Reichsführer-SS by Hitler on January 6, 1929 (Himmler retained his personal rank of SS-Oberführer, as “Reichsführer-SS” was not a personal rank at this time but rather a title as leader of the SS organization). The SS at this time numbered 280 men.

By December 1930 the SS had risen to 2,727 men, but it was still firmly under the overall command of the SA. In fact, when SA and SS were drawn together, the SS was always placed under the local SA commander. Although the SA did its best to restrain the SS and hold its membership numbers down, Himmler managed to bolster SS numbers by weaning suitable candidates from the SA into the elitist SS formations.

It was also in 1930 that Hitler, in a bid to stop the continued bitterness between the SA and SS leadership, handed Himmler a degree of independence from the SA. Although still formally under the command of the Oberste SA-Führer, no local SA commanders could give orders to the SS who were to receive new black uniforms instead of the brownshirt which was symbolic of the SA.

June 1932 saw SS numbers rising to 30,000 and by the time Hitler was made Chancellor on January 30, 1933, the SS was an organization of 52,000 men.

On July 20, 1934 the SS was officially separated from the SA and was no longer under the command of the Oberste SA-Führer. This complete independence from the SA was given to the SS by Hitler for their loyalty to him in putting down what was to become known as the Röhm rebellion.

From September 1934 Himmler created a new rank of “Reichsführer-SS” with badges of rank that were to be worn only by him.

At the 1934 Reichsparteitag the newly separated SS were awarded 75 "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards, the most they would receive at any one Reichsparteitag. Together with the eight standards awarded to them in 1933, they now had a total of 83 standards.

Heinrich Himmler was to remain as Reichsführer-SS until 1945.

The carrying of SA Standards by the SS (1926-1933)

It was at the 1926 Parteitag held at Weimar that Adolf Hitler turned over the coveted “Blood Flag” to the SS and proclaimed the SS as his elite organization. As such, these small SS units became the elite units of the SA. It was because of this that the SS was given the honor of bearing the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards of the SA at meetings and rallies.

The SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard “Danzig” is consecrated at the Braunschweig rally on October 18, 1931. A member of the SS was chosen as the bearer.

This situation continued from 1926 up to and including 1933 when at the 1933 Reichsparteitag the SS marched onto the grounds with all 126 of the soon to be consecrated “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards. Only eight of these were SS, the first ever to be awarded to the SS.
The famous photograph of the SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards being marched into the Luitpoldhain grounds at the 1933 Reichsparteitag by SS bearers.

SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards are lined up for consecration at the 1933 Reichsparteitag. Here the reader can clearly see the SS bearers and the relevant Führer of the SA-Standarte in front.

Consecration at the 1933 Reichsparteitag. Standards of the SA are held by SS bearers while the SA-Standartenführers wait by their standards to shake hands with Hitler.
THE TWO STANDARDS OF LEIBSTANDARTE SS ADOLF HITLER

The origins and history of the Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler

The origins of the "Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler" go back to early 1933. SS-Gruppenführer "Sepp" Dietrich had been personally ordered by Hitler to create a new guard unit (Stabswache) which was to supplement the existing Führer Bodyguard Commando (Führerbegleitkommando) which had been formed in 1932 by Dietrich for the protection of the Führer. Dietrich personally selected the first volunteers for this guard unit in February 1933 from various SS units throughout Germany. Criteria for possible inclusion in the Guard Unit were the following: The men were to be under 25 years of age, in good health, at least 1.8 meters tall, have joined the SS before January 30, 1933, and lastly, were to have no criminal record. The first 117 men arrived in Berlin on March 17, 1933 to begin training.

On April 8, 1933 Hitler gave a speech at a SA rally at the Berlin Sportpalast. The Stabswache, formed by Dietrich, were utilized as an honor guard at the rostrum. This was the first public appearance of the Stabswache unit.

Although the unit was stationed first at the Alexander Barracks in Berlin, it was moved to the famous Berlin-Lichterfelde Barracks where the unit was to remain until 1945. Over the next few months the Stabswache was enlarged and was broken down into SS-Sonderkommando Berlin, Zossen and Jüterbog.

The SS-Sonderkommando participated in the 1933 Reichsparteitag and on Sunday, September 3, a "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard bearing Hitler's name was awarded to the SS-Sonderkommando. At the same time they

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Organization breakdown of an SS-Oberabschnitte showing SS Standarte. This breakdown is from the 1943 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP.

The new Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler Standard at the 1933 Reichsparteitag.
One of the most famous photographs of the “Adolf Hitler” Standard. This carefully posed photograph is taken below one of the giant bronze eagles at the Luitpoldhain, 1933.

An excellent close up photo of the “Adolf Hitler” Standard after its presentation at the 1933 Reichsparteitag.
were also given the name “Leibstandarte SS-Standarte-1 Adolf Hitler.” In 1934 the Leibstandarte was taken out of the regimental numbering sequence and, therefore, “Deutschland” took over the designation “SS-Standarte-I. Deutschland.” The consecration of the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard “Adolf Hitler” took place at the 1933 Reichsparteitag with SS-Gruppenführer Dietrich receiving the Standard on behalf of the re-named unit. The unit would also wear a cuffband bearing the inscription “Adolf Hitler.”

On November 9, 1933 the “Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler” took a personal oath to Hitler. The oath took place at midnight. The street lights had been turned off and lighting was provided by members of the Allgemeine-SS holding flaming torches. 835 men of the Leibstandarte were standing by the Feldherrnhalle and as the last chimes of the bells in the Theatinerkirche recorded midnight, Hitler arrived, accompanied by Himmler and von Blomberg.

SS-Gruppenführer Sepp Dietrich announced, “Mein Fuhrer, your Leibstandarte with eight hundred and thirty five men are present for swearing in.” At this point Himmler recited the oath, “We pledge to thee, Adolf Hitler, loyalty and courage. We promise to thee and to thy chosen officers obedience until death. So help us God.” After the reciting of the oath, Hitler passed through the ranks of the 835 men with Jakob Grimminger bearing the “Blood Flag”. Each man touched the “Blood Flag” and shook hands with Hitler to seal the spoken oath.

On June 30, 1934 it was the Leibstandarte that helped quell the Röhm Putsch. By October 1934 it was decided that the Leibstandarte would be expanded to regimental status and also be motorized.

The standard of the Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler is paraded through the streets of Nuremberg at the time of the 1935 Reichsparteitag.

In March 1938 Dietrich, with a motorized battalion of the Leibstandarte, took part in the annexation of Austria. After this annexation the Leibstandarte was further enlarged and took part in the invasion of Poland in September 1939.
On September 9, 1940 at Metz, the Leibstandarte had the honor of being presented with a unique replacement standard bearing the name “Adolf Hitler.” This standard differed from the first in having a golden box and cloth similar to the Führerstandarte with golden fringe and tassels.

The Leibstandarte held an enviable fighting record throughout the war years. In 1945 with the Russian advance into Berlin, the 2nd version “Adolf Hitler” standard was captured and utilized in the Russian Victory Parade held in June 1945.

The “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard of the Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler

This standard bearing the name “Adolf Hitler” on the box was presented to the Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler at the 1933 Reichsparteitag.

It was used throughout the 1930’s and appeared at all the Reichsparteitage between 1933 and 1938.

On September 9, 1940 at Metz, Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler was presented with a 2nd version standard with the cloth having its design based on the Führerstandarte.

What happened to the original standard has been a matter for conjecture over the decades since 1945 with some sources suggesting that the original standard was re-worked to become the 2nd version, while others suggest that the original standard was kept at the Berlin-Lichterfelde barracks. It will suffice to say from 1940 onwards there is no recorded instance where both standards appeared together.

It is the opinion of the author that the original standard was re-worked and subsequently presented by Himmler at Metz in 1940. Evidence for this is shown in a photograph from November 9, 1938 where the “Adolf Hitler” standard is seen from behind. Evident are only four dedication rings with the fifth ring being placed on the staff in 1939. Strong evidence that the original staff was used on the 2nd version standard, also the fact that the Blood Flag was not present at Metz to consecrate this “new” standard adds weight to the possibility that it, albeit re-worked, had already been officially consecrated by the Blood Flag in 1933.

Photograph taken at the November 9, 1938 commemoration. Note the “Adolf Hitler” Standard seen from behind and bearing just four dedication rings to the staff. The fifth ring was placed on the staff in 1939.

1 An article in the Waffen-SS Old Comrades magazine “Der Freiwillige” issue 4, April 1965 suggests that the original standard was kept at the Berlin-Lichterfelde barracks from 1940.
The 2nd version Standard awarded to Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler

The 2nd version standard cloth of the Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler was designed by Professor Carl Diebitsch, based on his previous design for the Führerstandarte, and manufactured by the Berlin firm of “Fahnen Hoffmann.” On September 9, 1940 Reichsführer-SS Heinrich Himmler presented this re-worked standard on behalf of the Führer to the Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler at Metz.

Issue no. 18 of the magazine “Uniformen-Markt,” dated September 15, 1940, had the following to say about it: “Führerstandarte design for the new standard of the Leibstandarte SS. On behalf of the Führer, the Reichsführer-SS and Chef der Deutschen Polizei, Himmler, on the Western Heights before Metz on 9.9.40, presented the Führer-style Standarte to the Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler. As the “Uniformen-Markt” learned, it involved a modified Führer banner. The banner of the Führer und Reichskanzlei is, as is well known, an equilateral, black-white-black framed rectangle which bears a black-white edged black swastika framed in a golden oak leaf wreath, in the middle of a round disc. In the four corners of the banner, the eagle and wreathed swastika alternates with the eagle of the armed forces, both in gold. The cloth of the banner is the same on both sides (“UM” 1935, supplement 5, page 9). In contrast to the Führer Standard of the escort battalion, the Führer Standarte of the Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler is characterized by the fact that it displays the Party insignia in all four corners. The firm ‘Fahnen Hoffmann’ has done its best to manufacture the Standarte in a perfect manner.”
The new Standard awarded to Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler at Metz in 1940.

The new Standard of the LAH is carried through the streets of Metz in 1940 after its presentation.

The march through the streets of Metz in 1940.
The staff of this 2nd version standard of the L.SS.A.H. had five dedication rings mounted to the upper staff just above the joining collar. From the bottom upwards these had the following engraved dedications: 30 Juni 1934, Saarbrücken 1 März 1935, Wien 13 März 1938, Karlsbad-Komotzu 13-19 Oktober 1938, Böhmen-Mahren 14.3.1939.

The five dedication rings of honor as fitted to the upper staff of the 2nd version Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler Standard.

This 2nd version standard is well documented and survives in the Moscow Central Museum of the Armed Forces.

See chapter "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE' Standards and Parts of Standards that have Survived the War" for further information.

The letter sent to the author on September 13, 1994 by the curator of the "Moscow Central Museum of the Armed Forces" details exactly the engraved dedications to the five rings.

2 June 30, 1934 was an important date for the SS. This was the day that Ernst Röhm was arrested by the SS directly leading to the separation of the SS from the SA.

3 A letter sent from the curator of the Moscow Central Museum of the Armed Forces to the author on September 13, 1994 details exactly the engraved dedications to the 5 rings.
The origins and history of regiment “Deutschland”

Regiment “Deutschland” was formed from four independent SS battalions. It was not until the September 1935 Reichsparteitag that the 1st SS-Regiment received the honor title of “Deutschland” and was awarded its own “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard bearing that name.

Originally, “Deutschland” had been the 2nd SS-Regiment, however, the Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler which had been the 1st SS-Regiment was removed from the SS regimental numbering sequence in 1934. Hence, from this date “Deutschland” became the 1st SS-Regiment.

The Regiment moved into new barracks at München-Freimann on November 7, 1935 although units were also stationed at Ellwangen and Dachau.

On November 9, 1935 “Deutschland” took part in the yearly commemoration of the 1923 Putsch held at the Feldhernhalle. It was at this commemoration that the regiment wore the cuffband bearing the Gothic name “Deutschland” for the first time.

On July 1, 1936 SS-Obersturmbannführer Felix Steiner was promoted to SS-Standartenführer and made commander of “Deutschland” Regiment. (Up to this time he had been in command of the 3rd Battalion “Deutschland.”)

In late September 1936 SS-Obersturmbannführer Demelhuber, commander of the 2nd Battalion “Deutschland,” handed over this command to SS-Sturmbannführer Wilhelm Bittrich to take on the task of forming SS-Regiment “Germania.”

On March 23, 1938 SS-Obersturmbannführer Georg Keppler, commander of the 1st Battalion “Deutschland,” handed over this command to SS-Sturmbannführer Hinrich Schultdt to take on the task of forming SS-Regiment “Der Führer.”
The "Deutschland" standard is lowered during a speech given by Reichsminister Hess in Reichenberg to the Sudeten Deutsche Partei, 1938.

Regiment "Deutschland" marches through Prague in 1939. The three battalion flags of the "Deutschland" Regiment can be seen behind the standard.

By the end of 1938 "Deutschland" had become a motorized regiment and in the spring of 1939 was stationed in the Sudetenland.

On August 10, 1939 "Deutschland," along with other units of the SS-VT, became part of Panzerdivision "Kempf" which was made up mostly of army units and took part in the invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939.

After the Polish campaign, "Deutschland," "Germania," and "Der Führer" combined to become the SS-V-Division (SS-Verfügungs-Division) which was soon to become SS-Division "Das Reich."

The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Germania" proudly displayed by its bearer. The photograph was probably taken shortly after its consecration at the 1936 Reichsparteitag.
In September 1936 SS-Obersturmbannführer Karl Demelhuber left the 2nd Battalion of Regiment "Deutschland" to take over command of "Germania." On March 13, 1938 Regiment "Germania" was among the troops moved into Austria at the time of the annexation. In October 1938 "Germania," under the 4th Infantry Division, took part in the annexation of the Sudetenland. After the annexation, the regiment was stationed in Prague and was utilized as a special guard regiment for the new Reichsprotector for Bohemia and Moravia. In August 1939 "Germania" was relieved of these duties and re-stationed at Königsbrück. Once at Königsbrück, "Germania" was placed under the command of the 14th Army.

In September 1939 Regiment "Germania" participated in the invasion of Poland. After this campaign, "Germania" joined with "Deutschland" and "Der Führer" to form the SS-V-Division (SS-Verfügungs-Division) which later became the Waffen-SS Division "Das Reich."
THE “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” STANDARD OF SS-VT REGIMENT
“DER FÜHRER”

The origins and history of regiment “Der Führer”

After the annexation of Austria with Germany in March 1938, Adolf Hitler ordered the creation of the new SS-VT Regiment. The commander of Battalion 1 of SS-VT Regiment “Deutschland,” SS-Oberführer Georg Keppler, was given the task of creating this new regiment. The new regiment was known as SS-VT Regiment 3 and was comprised of personnel drawn from the other existing SS-VT regiments.

By the end of April, SS-VT Regiment 3 was comprised of three battalions. Battalion 1 was stationed in Vienna, Battalion 2 in Tobelbad Spa (south-west of Graz) and Battalion 3 in Klagenfurt. (The regiment had three companies stationed in Vienna.)

At the 1938 Reichsparteitag, SS-VT Regiment 3 received its new name of “Der Führer” and was presented with its “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard bearing the name “Der Führer” along with three battalion flags.

By March 1939 the regiment was fully motorized and took part in the occupation of Czechoslovakia. After the occupation, “Der Führer” was utilized as a guard regiment with the official title “Wach-Regiment des Reichsprotektors von Böhmen und Mähren.”

“Der Führer” did not take part in the invasion of Poland. Due to its late creation, its training program was not complete. Instead, it was transferred to the Oberrhein-Front-Breisach-Freiburg areas of the Westwall under the command of the 7th Army.

In October 1939 “Der Führer” joined with “Deutschland” and “Germania” to create the new SS “V” Division.

The standard and battalion flags of SS-Regiment “Der Führer” are stored for safe keeping in the office of SS-Brigadeführer Georg Keppler (commander of “Der Führer” Regiment). Circa 1940.
THE "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" STANDARD OF SS-TOTENKOPFSTANDARTE 1 "OBERBAYERN"

The origins and history of SS-Totenkopfstandarte 1 "Oberbayern"

In June 1935 SS-Oberführer Theodor Eicke took over command of the Dachau Concentration Camp. The camp was reorganized by Eicke who immediately dismissed half of the existing staff and restaffed the camp with hand-picked personnel. This new reorganized unit was called SS-Wachsturmabann 1 "Oberbayern." In early 1937 the unit was enlarged and renamed the SS-Totenkopfstandarte 1 "Oberbayern."

On September 12, 1937, at the annual Reichsparteitag, a new standard was awarded to SS-Totenkopfstandarte 1 "Oberbayern."

The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Oberbayern" is consecrated at the 1937 Reichsparteitag. Theodor Eicke, commander of "Oberbayern" stands in front of the Standard.

Hitler reviews SS-Totenkopfstandarte 1 "Oberbayern" in the Sudetenland, 1938/39. Theodor Eicke stands on the running board of the car.

THE "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" STANDARD OF SS-TOTENKOPFSTANDARTE 2 "BRANDENBURG"

The origins and history of SS-Totenkopfstandarte 2 "Brandenburg"

In April 1935 SS-Obersturmbannführer Michael Lippert took command of SS-Wachtruppe "Brandenburg" which was formed as a guard unit for the Sachsenhausen concentration camp.

Theodor Eicke and Michael Lippert. Lippert was to take over command of SS-Totenkopfstandarte 2 "Brandenburg."
The four standards of the SS-TV are marched through the Adolf Hitler Platz in the center of Nuremberg during the 1938 Reichsparteitag. The Standard of SS-Totenkopfstandarte 2 "Brandenburg" can be seen next to "Oberbayern."

SS-Totenkopfstandarte 2 "Brandenburg" is shown in the center of this photograph taken on November 9, 1938 at the annual commemoration of the Putsch held at the Feldherrnhalle. To the left in the photograph is the Standard "Oberbayern" and to the right the Standard "Thüringen." "Ostmark" is outside the photograph to the extreme right.

The SS-Totenkopfstandarte 3 "Thüringen" awaits the consecration of their new standard at the 1938 Reichsparteitag. The standards of SS-TV "Brandenburg" and "Ostmark" were also consecrated at this time.

In July 1937 the SS-Wachtruppe "Brandenburg" grew to regimental strength and was renamed SS-Totenkopfstandarte 2 "Brandenburg."

On Sunday, September 11, 1938 at the yearly Reichsparteitag, a new standard was awarded to SS-Totenkopfstandarte 2 "Brandenburg."

The origins and history of SS-Totenkopfstandarte 3 "Thüringen"

SS-Totenkopfstandarte 3 "Thüringen" was formed from SS-Wachtruppe "Sachsen" and SS-Wachtruppe "Elbe" which had been transferred to the Buchenwald concentration camp in 1935 and placed under the command of SS-Sturmbannführer Karl Koch.

On Sunday, September 11, 1938 at the yearly Reichsparteitag, a new standard was awarded to SS-Totenkopfstandarte 3 "Thüringen."
The “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” STANDARD OF SS-TOTENKOPFSTANDARTE 4 “OSTMARK”

The origins and history of SS-Totenkopfstandarte 4 “Ostmark”

On April 1, 1938 SS-Standartenführer Otto Reich took command of SS-Totenkopfstandarte 4 “Ostmark,” a newly formed regiment for the new Mauthausen concentration camp.

On Sunday, September 11, 1938 at the yearly Reichsparteitag, a new standard was awarded to SS-Totenkopfstandarte 4 “Ostmark.”
The origins and history of the SS-Reiterstandarten

In 1935, 23 SS-Reiterstandarten were presented with new "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards at the annual Reichsparteitag. These SS-Reiterstandarten were made up of between five and eight SS-Reiterstürme along with a Sanitätsreiterstaffel and a Trompeter Korps (bugler section).

A breakdown of an SS-Oberabschnitt showing SS-Reiterstandarten 23, 8 and 6. These are made up of four or five SS-Reiterstürme along with a Sanitätsreiterstaffel, Trompeter Korps and one Standarte having a Nachrichtenreiterstaffel (Cavalry Signals Unit). This breakdown is from the 1936 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP.

Besides the 23 known SS-Reiterstandarte, there was also another Reiterstandarte bearing the title "Wilhelm von Wolowski-Biedau," named after the inspector of the Allgemeine-SS-Reiterstandarte. It is not known if this Standarte was ever presented with a standard.

Generally, between one and two SS-Reiterstandarten could be attached to each SS-Abschnitt. It is unknown if further SS-Reiterstandarten were established after 1935.

Consecrations at the 1935 Reichsparteitag. The bearer of the standard for SS-Reiterstandarte 3 is next in line. He has swiveled it around in readiness for consecration with the "Blood Flag."

SS-Reiterstandarte 7 has just been consecrated with the "Blood Flag" at this 1935 Reichsparteitag. SS-Standarte 6 "Charlottenburg" is about to have their standard consecrated.
Newly consecrated SS-Reiterstandarten Standards march past the Adolf Hitler Platz at the 1935 Reichsparteitag. Following the SS-Reiterstandarten are the SS-Motorstandarten. The standard for SS-Motorstandarte 7 can be seen to the extreme right of the photograph.

Above and at right: The SS-Reiterstandarte 23 in use.
The design of the SS-Reiter Standards allowed them to be carried on horseback. A special knee-length, black leather bandolier was introduced to facilitate this. (Photograph taken in July 1937.)

This Romanesque photograph taken in 1937 shows a march past of SS-Reiter Standards.

SS-MOTORSTANDARTE "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" STANDARDS

The origins and history of the SS-Motorstandarten

The SS-Motorstandarten were introduced in 1935. Before this date only SS-Motoreinheiten (SS-Motor Units) existed which also bore the designation SS-Kraftfahrstürme (SS-Motor Transport Companies). These units were broken down into Staffeln (columns) and were assigned to SS-Abschnitte.

In locals where there was no Abschnitt headquarters, but where there was an SS-Oberabschnitt, a Staffel could be assigned directly to this SS-Oberabschnitt.

In 1935 these SS-Motor Units were brought together to form SS-Motorstandarten.

The SS-Motorstandarten are detailed in an original document dated July 12, 1935. This document shows ten SS-Motorstandarte (SS-Motorstandarte 8 has been omitted and it is unclear if this Standarte existed.)

A document dated July 12, 1935 concerning the presentation of "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards for the SS at the 1935 Reichsparteitag. This is the only document found to date that details the ten standards of the SS-Motorstandarten. Note that only ten SS-Motorstandarte "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards are listed. SS-Motorstandarte 8 has been omitted. It is not known if it was presented with a standard.
SS-Motorstandarte and SS-Reiterstandarte Standards can be seen in this line up at the 1935 Reichsparteitag. Among the standards, M11 (center) can be identified.

Further evidence of SS-Motorstandarte is shown in the breakdown of an Oberabschnitt from the "Organisationsbuch der NSDAP" 1936. It is unknown if additional SS-Motorstandarte were established after 1935.

A breakdown of an SS-Oberabschnitt showing SS-Motorstandarte 5 made up of three SS-Motor units (presumably one for each SS-Abschnitt) and one SS motorized Medical Unit. This breakdown is from the 1936 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP.

Note: Very little documentation has surfaced concerning the creation of SS-Motorstandarten and due to this lack of information they have been overlooked by post-war authors detailing units of the SS organization.
An excellent photograph of a SS man wearing the M1929 SA/SS gorget.
The Special Design Gorget of the Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler

The Standard bearer of the "Adolf Hitler" Standard (first type) wears the special "Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler" gorget. Although this photograph is well-known and documents the existence of the "special" gorget, it is strange that it is rarely seen worn. Possibly, it was worn only for a short time and was retired from service in favor of the new 1938 pattern SS gorget. Two examples of this gorget are known to exist although the originality of either has not been confirmed. Certainly, the original would be a "one of a kind" piece made especially for the LAH standard bearer. The gorget is of the traditional shape and has crossed standards each side of a central oval bearing the LAH entwined monogram.

Gloves worn by SS Standard Bearers

Two versions of white leather gloves were worn by SS standard bearers.

Type 1: A pair of wrist-length, white leather gloves, fastened with a single button.

This standard bearer carrying the SS Standard "Wartburg" wears the Type 1 white leather gloves.

The Type 1 white leather gloves.

The Type 2 white leather gauntlets.
Type 2: A pair of white leather gauntlets with a stiffened white leather section that extended past the wrist and went over the outside of the tunic or greatcoat sleeve.

The SS Bandoliers

Officially, the first bandolier worn by SS standard bearers would be in 1933 when the SS were awarded their first eight “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards at the Reichsparteitag held at Nürnberg.

This newly introduced bandolier was of black leather and was of simple construction with an adjustable buckle and pouch which would accept the nickel-silver metal base of the standard. The bandolier leather ran around the sides and underneath the pouch to provide suitable strength to take the weight of the complete standard. This bandolier was constructed as that of the SA, apart from the color of the SA bandolier which was in dark brown.
Standards of the SS are carried during the 1926-1936 Weimar anniversary march. Note that the 1923 pattern black leather bandolier is still being used although some Standarte such as Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler had already been given the new brocade SS bandolier.

In 1935, brocade and leather bandoliers were introduced for the SS. They were constructed with a black leather base to which black material was affixed. Over the black material silver brocade braid was machine sewn. A hidden adjustment for length was fitted at the wearer's back. This brocade length finished above the pouch which was of heavy leather and machine-sewn to a leather flap. A nickel-silver, metal buckle was also mounted here to help support the weight of the standard.

This silver brocade bandolier came in two different forms. Both of these types were used to carry standards and also Sturmfahne.

Type A: A single large length of brocade machined to the leather base on each side with black material visible to the center.

Type B: A double narrower length of brocade machined to the leather base with two strips of black material visible.

The bearer of the "Adolf Hitler" Standard wears the Type A brocade bandolier. Note that the bearer of the "Hessen" Standard still wears the 1933 pattern leather bandolier.

The bearer of the "Adolf Hitler" Standard and bearers of Sturmfahne all wear the Type A brocade bandolier at the 1936 Reichsparteitag.
The Type B SS standard bearers bandolier.

Detail showing the supported pouch to hold the base of the standard staff. Note also the fine work to the silver brocade.

Detail showing the reverse of the Type B SS bandolier. Note the markings "SS 502/37 KZM." "37" is the year code for 1937.

An SS-Sturmfahne bearer wears the Type B brocade bandolier at the 1938 Reichsparteitag.

The bearer of the "Charlottenburg" Standard wears the Type B brocade bandolier, Berlin 1938.
SS-Reiter Standard Bearers Bandoliers

The SS-Reiter were presented with their first 23 Standards at the 1935 Reichsparteitag. A special knee-length bandolier was introduced at this time to allow the bearer to carry the standard on horseback. This bandolier was of black leather, the length of which allowed it to be in line with the knee of the bearer when standing. It had a buckle to allow for some personal adjustment in respect of the height of the bearer. The bandolier leather ran around the sides and underneath the pouch to provide suitable strength to take the weight of the complete standard.

A brocade version was also available later, and this would also be a knee length-version.

SS-Reiter Standard bearers carry the special knee length leather bandolier. It is barely noticeable on the three bearers to the left of the photograph.

CHAPTER 10
The “Deutschland Erwache”
Standard of the Polizei

HISTORY OF THE POLICE 1933-1937

Following their rise to power in 1933 the NSDAP exerted considerable effort to take over the police force. On February 2, 1933 Göring assumed full control of the Prussian Police and immediately set about dismissing those members with known anti-Nazi sentiments. While Chief of the Prussian Police, Göring also took control of the Prussian Political Police.

On April 26, 1933 Göring moved the Political Police into their own headquarters at 8 Prinz-Albrecht Strasse. In June of the same year the Prussian Political Police was officially renamed the Prussian Geheime Staatspolizei.

Heinrich Himmler, the Reichsführer-SS, was appointed Munich Police President in early 1933 and with the help of Reinhard Heydrich quickly set about reorganizing the existing Bavarian Political Police. Between 1933 and 1934 Himmler managed to acquire control of the Political Police in most of the German States with the exception of Prussia.

On April 20, 1934 Himmler was given control of the Prussian Political Police or Prussian Geheime Staatspolizei as Göring had renamed them. With the addition of the large state of Prussia, Himmler became the head of a unified German political police force. The name Geheime Staatspolizei was kept, and Reinhard Heydrich became the deputy of this organization.

By an official decree of June 17, 1936, Himmler was made Chief of the whole German Police Force.

On Sunday morning, September 12, 1937 at the annual Reichsparteitag, the German Police was awarded its own standard bearing the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” slogan which was consecrated by Hitler with the “Blood Flag”.

14 years earlier on November 9, 1923 it had been the German Police that fired on Hitler and his followers at the Feldhernhalle killing fourteen. A swastika flag, stained with the blood of one of the dead followers, was later to become the famous “Blood Flag”. It was this “Blood Flag” that was now consecrating a
The 1933 variant Standard of the Polizei

On February 2, 1933 Göring assumed full control of the Prussian Police, and on April 1 of that year the first swastika flags were given to the Prussian Schutzpolizei, including a new standard. Little is known about this “one-of-a-kind” standard, as it does not appear in the statistics of standards for 1933 as shown in the “Daten der Geschichte der NSDAP” and no photographs have yet been found of this standard at the 1933 Reichsparteitag and as such, it is unclear if it was actually consecrated with the “Blood Flag”.

Knowing Göring’s passion for uniforms, flags, and standards, it is more than possible that he, in his position as chief of the Prussian Police, created this standard for the Schutzpolizei based on the design of the SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard.

The Standard has an eagle and wreathed swastika finial of the same design as the Gahr-produced finial for the SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard (it is quite possible that the finial was produced by Gahr). The box also had the same dimensions as the SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard box, but was peculiar in having large capital letters making the word “Polizei.” It is unknown what was on the reverse of the box and what the background color was. The standard cloth is in red with a white roundel bearing a black immobile swastika. On each corner is the Polizei emblem in the form of a starburst with an eagle in the center. It is unknown what design (if any) was on the reverse of the cloth. The cloth and crosspole were suspended from the standard with an elongated tassel which was clipped to either side of the box and looped over the wooden crosspole.

The “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard of the Polizei

The Police were awarded their own “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard at the 1937 Reichsparteitag where it was consecrated by the “Blood Flag”. After this the new Standard was paraded through the Brandenburg Gate.

The Prussian Schutzpolizei parade their new flags and standard. Note the curious elongated tassel that runs down from the standard box, around the crosspole, and which is held by the two men on either side of the standard bearer.

The Polizei “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard awaits consecration at the 1937 Reichsparteitag.
in Berlin on September 15, 1937. This parade was well photographed at the time. One photograph became particularly well known as it appeared on the front cover of the book Jederzeit einsatzbereit, Ein Bildbericht von der neuen Deutschen Polizei. This book published in 1939 was a photo-book of the Police organizations. The photograph used for the cover depicted the march through the Brandenburg Gate by the Police with their new “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard (with the background buildings removed to highlight the standard.) The same picture appeared inside the book, intact, with the buildings present in the background.

After the consecration of the Polizei Standard at the 1937 Reichsparteitag, the Uniformen-Markt dated October 1, 1937 states that this standard was to be kept in the “Dienst-Zimmer” of General Daluge along with the oldest flags of the National Socialist Movement in Berlin and North Germany. It has been noted that the Polizei Standard was used in a march through the Brandenburg Gate on September 15, 1937. It was also carried at the November 9th commemoration in Munich. During the war years it was probably kept in the “Dienst-Zimmer” of General Daluge. One of the last occasions that it was publicly carried was at the state funeral of SS-Obergruppenführer Reinhard Heydrich in 1942.

These two photographs show the actual march through the Brandenburg Gate with the Polizei “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard at the head of the column on September 15, 1937.
The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard of the Polizei follows behind the Standards of the Totenkopfverbände during the commemoration of the 1923 Putsch held in Munich on November 9, 1938.

The Polizei "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard is carried directly behind SS General Willi Bittrich on the solemn occasion of the funeral held for SS-Obergruppenführer Reinhard Heydrich. (This photograph was taken at the Hradcany Castle, Prague, 1942.)

The Polizei "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard is marched to the Invaliden Friedhof, Berlin, on the occasion of SS-Obergruppenführer Reinhard Heydrich's funeral.

The Polizei "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard is photographed as the marchers halt on the Schamhorststrasse by the Invaliden Friedhof.

By April 1940 the well known artist, Knötel, had completed a set of watercolor drawings depicting uniforms and regalia of the various Police organizations. This set of watercolors was printed and offered as a fine folio to members of the Police who could purchase them through the German Police Fraternal Organization (KDP).²

One of the Knötel watercolors was of the Polizei "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard with bearer along with fellow police officers, one

² Letter dated 12/12/91 from Joseph Worka (specialist on Third Reich Police).
marching on either side. Comparison between the black and white photograph showing the parade of the standard from the book *Jederzeit einsatzbereit* and the Knötel watercolor show beyond doubt that Knötel based his watercolor of the standard on this photograph. The pose of the three officers is almost identical as is the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard with one tassel swaying slightly away from the cloth. Although Knötel has copied the three officers with standard almost exactly he has, in fact, changed the background by leaving out the buildings and inserting a Police Schellenbaum.

Unfortunately, Knötel seemingly guessed certain colors while working from the black and white photograph and painted in the background color to the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard box in red rather than black which was the correct background color. This slight lack of attention to detail by Knötel in painting the background color of the standard box in the incorrect color has led many collectors and researchers to believe that the box on the Polizei standard had a red background.
ACCOUTERMENTS WORN BY THE POLIZEI “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” STANDARD BEARER 1937 - 1945

The Polizei Standard bearers gorget

The Polizei gorget was introduced for wear in 1937 in time for the annual Reichsparteitag when the first “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard was consecrated. It is a pressed aluminum half moon with polished edge lip. In the center is an aluminum, Polizei wreathed eagle on a wreathed swastika. In each corner of the half moon is a relief decorated boss. The reverse of the gorget is covered in cloth and has a central prong for insertion into a uniform buttonhole. The chain is in aluminum.

The gorget was also worn by bearers of Polizei Sturmfahtne.

The bandolier worn by the Polizei Standard Bearer

The Polizei brocade standard bearers bandolier was observed for the first time at the 1937 Reichsparteitag. This bandolier had a backing of black leather which was affixed “Polizei-green” material. Over this material a silver aluminum brocade was machine-sewn. A hidden adjustment for length was fitted at the bearer’s back. The brocade length finished above the pouch which was of heavy black leather and machine-sewn to a leather flap. A nickel-silver metal ring was also mounted in this area to help support the weight of the standard.

The Polizei Standard bearers gorget introduced in 1937.

The bandolier as worn by the bearer of the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard. It is interesting to note that the bearer is a holder of the coveted “Blood Order” medal.

Gloves worn by Polizei Standard bearers

Photographic evidence suggests that the white leather gauntlets were worn consistently by the Polizei standard bearer.
CHAPTER 11
The NSKK - Nationalsozialistisches Kraftfahrkorps

THE BIRTH OF THE NSKK AND ITS LEADERS 1934-1945

The N.S.K.K. “Nationalsozialistisches Kraftfahrkorps” (National Socialist Motor Corps) was officially formed in August 1934 by Adolf Hühnlein, but its roots went back to 1929 with an inspired idea by Martin Bormann. He had proposed to Hitler that a small motor unit be established for use by the Party. Bormann was instructed to draw up the organizational plans for such a motor unit which was officially formed on April 1, 1930 under the title “Nationalsozialistisches Automobil-Korps” (National Socialist Automobile Corps) or NSAK. The newly appointed Korpsführer for the NSAK was the Oberste SA Führer Franz Von Pfeffer. Hitler was given membership number 1 in the NSAK and Bormann received membership number 2.

The NSAK quickly grew in size and became the motorized branch of the SA providing mobility to the SA organization as well as vehicle training for SA members.

By 1934 leadership of the NSAK was given to SA-Obergruppenführer Adolf Hühnlein who became the new Korpsführer. Hühnlein was already the president of the National Organization for the furthering of German Motorsports and was an excellent choice for this position. He was also an early Party member and had taken part in the November 9, 1923 Putsch for which he received the “Bloodorder” bearing number 8.

Hühnlein created the new title of “Nationalsozialistisches Kraftfahrkorps” (NSKK) for his motor organization, thus, the old NSAK and Motor-SA became the nucleus of the new NSKK, an independent organization of the Party.

By the end of 1934 the NSKK had expanded to 350,000 members. The NSKK was structured into Motorobergruppen which were made up of Motorgruppen. These then broke down into Motorbriigen which broke down to Motorstandarten.

At the 1935 Reichsparteitag, the newly designed “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard for the NSKK Motorstandarten was introduced. 28 of these new Standards were awarded to various NSKK-Motorstandarten at this time.

On June 18, 1942 Korpsführer Hühnlein died. His funeral took place at the Bavarian Army Museum in Munich. Upon his death, NSKK Obergruppenführer Erwin Kraus took over as Korpsführer from 1942 until 1945.
The NSKK "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards

The NSKK "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard was first seen at the 1935 Reichsparteitag when 28 were awarded to various Motorstandarten.

In 1936 another 35 were awarded. In 1937, 34 were awarded and at the 1938 Reichsparteitag 21 were awarded, totalling 118 between 1935 and 1938.

It is known that further awards of NSKK standards took place after 1938, although as yet it has not been possible to ascertain how many.

NSKK men await the consecration of their new standards at the 1935 Reichsparteitag. The standard of NSKK Motorstandarte MBI can be seen to the right of the photo. The cloth from this standard survives and is in the collection of Ulric of England.
The three "Center-Hanging" "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards of the NSKK

There were three NSKK Standarte that had the traditional 1923 pattern "center-hanging" "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" style standards. These are well recorded in photographs, and the most usually observed one is the NSKK standard of "Münster."

The three 1923 pattern "center-hanging" "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards are marched at the front, followed by the 1935 pattern standards.

"DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards of the NSKK file into the Congress Hall at the 1936 Reichsparteitag. The photograph shows the front of the Speer-designed front to the Congress Hall and the "Führerstandarte" affixed to the front.

The 1923 pattern "center-hanging" "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Münster" is held in front of a row of Sturmsfelder.
The Saar region of Germany had seen some of the most intense and bitter political fighting. Occupation by the French after the end of WWI had led to fierce German nationalism within this area. It was not until January 1935 that it was feasible to have a people's vote in Saarland to determine what majority wanted reunification with Germany. 90.7% of the population of Saarland voted to be incorporated back into Reich.

On March 1, 1935 the Saarland area was officially incorporated back into Germany.

A unique NSKK standard was awarded to the NSKK Saar-based Standarte. This standard bore a patch in dark brown with the silver wire designation of "M SAAR."

It is most probable that NSKK Motorstandarte Prag also had a "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard bearing the corner patch "M PRAG."
NSKK Gruppenführer Oppermann published a work in 1936 under the title *Unter den Sturmmastern des NSKK* (a history of the NSKK).

Page 245 of this book shows the NSKK "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard M86 being carried in a vehicle. The cloth of the standard in the photo has been retouched so that the slogan "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" can be...
ACCOUTERMENTS WORN BY NSKK “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” STANDARD BEARERS (1935 - 1945)

The NSKK Standard Bearers gorget

The NSKK gorget was introduced for wear in 1935 for the annual Reichsparteitag when the first 28 NSKK “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards were presented.

The gorget is a metal half moon shape. The main section of the half moon is in a satined-silver finish, with a gilt raised edge lip. In the center is a relief emblem of the NSKK design (a stylized eagle on wreathed swastika with a scroll to the top bearing the letters “NSKK”). This entire center emblem is finished in gilt. In each corner of the half moon is a decorated boss, also in gilt. The reverse of the gorget normally has a dark colored cloth covering and a central tang to secure the gorget to the uniform. The neck chain is made of closely formed nickel-silver links similar to the SA/SS type.

This gorget was restricted to wear by only “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard bearers. Bearers of the Sturmstader continued to wear the SA/SS 1929 Pattern gorget.
NSKK bandoliers

Officially, the first bandolier for wear by NSKK standard bearers was introduced in 1935. It was in black leather and was of simple construction with an adjustable buckle and pouch which would accept the nickel-silver metal base of the standard. The bandolier leather ran around the sides and underneath the pouch to provide suitable strength to take the weight of the standard. This bandolier was constructed as that of the SA apart from the color which was black instead of the SA dark brown.

By 1938, brocade and leather bandoliers were introduced for the NSKK. They were constructed with a black leather base to which was affixed black material. Over the black material silver brocade braid was machine-sewn. A hidden adjustment for length was fitted at the wearer's back. This brocade length finished above the pouch which was of heavy leather and machine-sewn to a leather flap. A nickel-silver buckle was also mounted in this area to help support the weight of the standard.
CHAPTER 12

The NSFK—Nationalsozialistisches Fliegerkorps

BIRTH OF THE NSFK AND ITS LEADERS (1937 - 1945)

The last formation of the NSDAP to be created was the NSFK (National Socialist Flying Corps) which came into existence on April 17, 1937. Its leader was Korpsführer Friedrich Christiansen. The symbol for the NSFK was a winged man with a swastika superimposed over his legs. This winged man symbol was taken from Greek mythology and represented the flight of Daedalus and his son Icarus. They escaped from prison by means of wings made from wax and feathers. Daedalus flew successfully and escaped but Icarus flew too close to the sun. The heat of the sun melted the wax holding his wings together and he fell to his death.

The painting called "Icarus" by Herbert Kampf. This painting was on display at the "House of German Art" in Munich and shows Icarus launching himself into the sky.

Gloves worn by NSKK Standard Bearers

Photographic evidence suggests that when gloves were worn by NSKK standard bearers, the large black leather gauntlet type was worn consistently.

Note the black leather gauntlets worn by the NSKK standard bearer. When gloves were worn, these were worn consistently.
The NSFK was created out of the Deutscher Luftsport-Verband (German Airsports Association). The purpose of the NSFK was to provide a Party-sponsored association devoted to aviation sports.

**Das Nationalsozialistische Fliegerkorps (NSFK.)**

Leader of the NSFK, Korpsführer Friedrich Christiansen, wearing the uniform of NSFK Korpsführer. Note the unique collar patches for his rank bearing the winged man symbols in the center of a wreath of golden oakleaves.

Organizational breakdown of the NSFK showing the Standarten within the structure of the NSFK. (This organizational breakdown is taken from the 1940 Organisationsbuch der NSDAP.)

Late in 1943 Korpsführer Christiansen was replaced by Luftwaffe General Alfred Keller. Keller held this position until 1945.
Standarte number. The standard was finished with black/white/red segmented fringe along with a tassel. Interestingly, these standards did not have the familiar "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" slogan. Perhaps Hitler thought it would look slightly "passe" to use this slogan from the times of struggle on a formation brought into existence in 1937. In 1937 the Third Reich looked like it would last the thousand years that had been spoken of...Germany was very awake!

ACCOMMENTS WORN BY NSFK STANDARD BEARERS (1938-1945)

The NSFK Standard Bearers Gorget

The NSFK gorget was introduced for wear in 1938 for the annual Reichsparteitag when the first sixteen NSFK standards would be consecrated.

The gorget is constructed as a polished, nickel-silver half moon with a winged man motif in relief in the center bearing the letters "NSFK" within a band above the head. The gorget hangs from a nickel-silver chain similar to the Feldgendarmerie gorget chain. The reverse of the gorget normally has a dark colored cloth covering and a central prong for inserting into a uniform button-hole.

The gorget was also worn by bearers of NSFK Sturmfahne.

The Bandolier worn by NSFK Standard Bearers

The NSFK standard bearer's bandolier was seen for the first time at the 1938 Reichsparteitag, at which time the first sixteen standards were consecrated.

This bandolier had a backing of black leather to which was affixed field-blue material. Over this material a wide silver aluminum brocade was machinesewn to each side with a narrower strip of silver aluminum brocade running parallel at each side. A hidden adjustment for length was fitted at the bearer's
back. The brocade lengths would finish just above the pouch which was of heavy black leather and machine-sewn to a leather flap. A nickel-silver metal ring was also mounted in this area to help support the weight of the standard.

**Gloves worn by NSFK Standard Bearers**

Unfortunately, the limited photographic evidence of NSFK standard bearers has failed to reveal any gloves in wear.
CHAPTER 13

The “Intermediate-Standards” of the SS-Signals Battalion & the Police

BACKGROUND TO THE “INTERMEDIATE-STANDARDS”

Two Standards are known to have been awarded which can only be categorized as “Intermediate-Standards,” in that they were classed as having greater importance than a regular Sturmfahne. It would appear that these types of standards were awarded to units with a size or importance greater than a Sturm, but less than a Standarte!

Only two of these “Intermediate-Standards” (for lack of any other description) are known to have existed—one to the SS-Nachrichtensturmbann (SS-Signals Battalion) and the other to the Polizei. No period documentation has come to light concerning the two “Intermediate-Standards” but they certainly must have met with Hitler’s approval before such a radical new design, based on the Sturmfahne and the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard, would have been allowed to be produced.

The construction and manufacture of the two standards are a cross between a Sturmfahne and a “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard. A double-sided, red silk cloth is suspended from a black wooden horizontal top pole and a black wooden staff. The finial is in the shape of a bayonet top (much along the lines of a Sturmfahne finial) finished in silver and with a tubular bracket to allow the insertion of the top horizontal wooden pole. The red silk cloth has a large white silk roundel with a black mobile swastika in the center. The edge of the roundel and the black swastika are finished with silver braiding. The staff edge and the top edge of the cloth have six silvered metal eyelets through which an elongated “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard style tassel weaves in and out through the eyelets and around the staff and top horizontal pole. The other two edges of the cloth have the traditional “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard style fringe in segmented colors of black/white/red. On the top staff side corner of the cloth is the unit patch of silver wire embroidery on black wool with silver piping bordering the outside edges. The cloth is double-sided.
A member of the SS-Signals Battalion, now part of SS-"V"-Division, carries the SS-Signals "Intermediate-Standard," supporting it over his shoulder, France 1940.

A ceremony takes place in France 1940 with musicians and troops of the SS-"V"-Division.

The SS-Signals "Intermediate-Standard" is marched past troops of the SS-"V"-Division, France 1940.

An enlargement of the above photo showing the SS-Signals "Intermediate-Standard" at the ceremony.
The "Intermediate-Standard" of the Police

The Polizei "Intermediate-Standard" was presented and consecrated by the "Blood Flag" at the 1938 Reichsparteitag. The unit patch consisted of a silver wire embroidered wreathed eagle on swastika on black wool with silver edge piping. Nothing is known at present as to what Polizei unit received the "Intermediate-Standard." The complete "Intermediate-Standard," less the black wooden staff and top horizontal pole, survived the war and was known to be in a private collection in the USA until the 1970s. Most probably it still remains in one today.

Detail of the patch on the Polizei "Intermediate-Standard." The wreathed eagle on swastika is embroidered onto black wool with silver edge piping. Clearly visible are the metal eyelets with the tassel cord threaded through.

Hitler consecrates the "Intermediate-Standard" of the Polizei at the 1938 Reichsparteitag amidst the first sixteen Standards of the NSFK.
CHAPTER 14

The Blood Flag

The history of the “Blood Flag” (Blutfahne) goes back to the spring of 1923 when the 6th Company, SA-Regt. München, received a new swastika flag which they then carried instead of the Reichskriegsflag which they had been carrying. On November 9, 1923 this flag was brought with the 6th Company to the Burgerbräukeller where they were being organized for the march to the Feldhernhalle. The leader of the 6th Company gave this flag to Heinrich Traumbauer to carry on the march. Once at the Feldhernhalle, the police fired at the marchers. Traumbauer, along with others near the front of the march, fell to the ground. Andreas Bauriedl who had been marching next to Traumbauer was shot in the stomach. Bleeding badly, he fell on top of Traumbauer’s flag. Bauriedl was killed almost immediately.

Traumbauer gathered up the blood-soaked flag and ran amidst the chaos to Theaterstrasse 30 and went to the 4th floor where his friend Herr Zellinger lived. Once in his apartment he separated the flag cloth from the staff, left the staff with Herr Zellinger, and then left for his own home with the flag folded up and hidden inside his windjacket. A few days later Feldwebel Karl Eggers of the 6th Company asked Traumbauer about the whereabouts of their flag. Traumbauer told him the story and gave the flag cloth over to Eggers for safekeeping. Eggers was also worried about the possibility of being raided by the police and gave the flag to a friend named Grif (a Munich architect) where he kept it for safekeeping. Sometime later, Eggers took the flag back and possibly left it with Viktoria Edrich, a widow and loyal Party member living at Türkensasse 23.

After Hitler was released from Landsberg Prison, Feldwebel Karl Eggers gave the blood-stained flag to him. The flag was then fitted to a new staff and finial in the design of a swastika within an oakleaf wreath. Just below this finial was a silver dedication sleeve. This sleeve bore the names of three martyrs from the failed November 9 Putsch who had been members of the 6th Company SA-Regt. München: Bauriedl, Heckenberger, and von Stransky.

1 Türkensasse 23 is also where a young Reinhard Heydrich set up the fledgling “Sicherheitsdienst” (security service) in the early 1930’s. In Deschner’s book “Heydrich, the pursuit of total power” he also states that the “Blood Flag” had been kept by Viktoria Edrich for a period of time. (Source Information: Hauptarchiv der NSDAP, questionnaires filled in by survivors of the Putsch at 1923. Now held by the Bunderarchiv. Documents from the “Office of the 8/9 November” now held by the Bundesarchiv.)

This flag was then given by Hitler to the SS at the Party Rally held at Weimar on July 4, 1926. From this day on, the blood-stained flag was to be known as the “Blood Flag” (Blutfahne) and was to become one of the most sacred relics of the Hitler movement.

Joseph Berchtold, as leader of the SS, elected Heinrich Traumbauer (now a member of the Munich SS) to carry the “Blood Flag.” However, due to ill health, Traumbauer was not always able to carry the flag so Berchtold requested that Jacob Grimminger and Traumbauer would be the dual carriers of the “Blood Flag.”

During the period of 1926-1928 the “Blood Flag” was kept at Tal 24/ München II until 1928 when the Standartenhalle was completed at Schellingstrasse 50, the first official Party headquarters.

Heinrich Traumbauer, already suffering from ill health, received a fractured skull in a street fight with Communists, which later proved fatal. Because of this Jacob Grimminger became the sole bearer of the “Blood Flag,” a role he held until the last stages of the war.

Traumbauer’s health deteriorated and eventually in 1932 he was committed to the psychiatric department of the Munich Hospital. Traumbauer’s brain had been seriously impaired by his injury.

It was doubly tragic in that a legend had emerged that the original bearer of the “Blood Flag” was the dead martyr Andreas Bauriedl. It is understandable how such a legend could spring up, for after all it was Bauriedl’s blood that had soaked the flag. The terminally-ill Traumbauer was in no condition to protest such stories and so they persisted, and the legend that Bauriedl had carried the
flag at the Putsch became the accepted version. Even books written during the 1930s suggested or stated that Bahriel had carried the flag. So accepted was this version of events that almost every post-war book written on this subject states that Andreas Bahriel held the flag at the Putsch of November 9, 1923, and that Jacob Griminger was the bearer of the flag when the Party reformed in 1926. The name of Trambauer is totally absent from this important part of NSDAP history.

Andreas Bahriel. Due to an amazing set of coincidences Andreas Bahriel was thought by many to have been the original bearer of the “Blood Flag.”

A rare photograph from the 1926 Weimar Reichsparteitage showing Heinrich Trambauer (the “real” bearer of the “Blood Flag” at the 1923 Putsch) holding the “Blood Flag”. Due to ill health, Trambauer was not able to hold and carry the “Blood Flag” for the hours that were necessary at these Reichsparteitage, therefore, Jakob Griminger was appointed to help Trambauer carry it. Note that Griminger is standing at far left in this photograph.

Jakob Griminger with the “Blood Flag.” He was to become bearer of the “Blood Flag” from 1926-1945.
In 1935, through the efforts of Betty Trambauer (wife of Heinrich Trambauer), the office of the 8/9 November (a special office set up to deal with all matters pertaining to the Putsch and its annual commemoration) decided to look into the matter of the correct bearer of the "Blood Flag" at the Putsch of 1923. After extensive research, it was officially recorded that, indeed, Heinrich Trambauer had been the original bearer of the flag.

Trambauer died in the hospital in October 1942 at the age of 43. His condition had slowly deteriorated from 1932. The "Blood Flag" itself was moved from Schellingstrasse 50 to the newly refurbished "Brown House" in 1931. This was its location at least until 1944.

Whether the "Blood Flag" was moved to a safer place later in 1944 is not known. After the war Jacob Grimminger was interrogated as to the whereabouts of the "Blood Flag." His answer to everyone was the same...he did not know!!

1 The author has been told by a German contact that Grimminger had, in fact, hidden the "Blood Flag" before the end of the war, and sold it before his death to a wealthy German collector. None of this information has been confirmed, but remains an interesting possibility.
The Consecration Process 1926–1945

The first consecrations of "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards with the "Blood Flag" took place at the 1926 Parteitag held at Weimar.

This was also when the "Blood Flag", fitted to a new staff with an oak-leaf and swastika finial, was presented by Hitler to Reichsführer-SS Joseph Berchtold. At this Parteitag Heinrich Trambauer was given the honor of being the bearer of the Blood Flag and on Sunday, July 4, 1926 eight new SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards were consecrated by Hitler using the "Blood Flag."

Hitler stated at this Parteitag that "the touch of the "Blood Flag" would make sacred the flag of every branch that springs from the flowering tree of National Socialism." This was the key to the consecration process when new standards were touched by the "Blood Flag," a process carried out by Hitler himself.

During the early consecrations (before 1933) the process was less formal than later ones.

Hitler with the "Blood Flag" of 1923.

*See chapter 14 for background on Heinrich Trambauer.

1. "Daten der Geschichte der NSDAP" by Dr. Hans Volz.
2. Weimar 1926-1936, "Illustrierte Beobachter."
Hitler might consecrate a standard from behind, or with the staff of the standard held off the ground and lowered to allow him to consecrate the standard by touching the cloth with the "Blood Flag."

SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Schweinitz" is consecrated at the 1931 Parteitag. The standard has been lowered toward Hitler as he grasps the cloth of the standard and the cloth of the "Blood Flag" and holds them together.

From 1933, at the annual Reichsparteitag the consecration process was more formal compared to the earlier events.

On Sunday morning all the standards to be consecrated would be lined up at the Luitpoldhain. Hitler would walk to the first standard in the front row. Jakob Grimminger would be directly behind him carrying the "Blood Flag," and from 1934 Lutze as Stabschef of the SA and Himmler as Reichsführer-SS walked behind the "Blood Flag" (for the 1933 Reichsparteitag Röhm, as head of both the SA and SS, walked behind the "Blood Flag" with Himmler).

As Hitler started to consecrate the standards there was complete silence. He would take the "Blood Flag" cloth in his hand and grasping a section of the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard cloth he would hold them together symbolizing the transference of power. Behind the Luitpoldhain tribune soldiers of the German Army would fire cannons. After the cannons had been fired Hitler would shake hands with the commander of the Standarte (usually a
Consecrations take place on Sunday morning at the Reichsparteitag. Behind the large triple swastika banners of the Luitpoldhain, cannon fire signals the completion of one consecration. The timing of the cannon fire had been carefully worked out to allow Hitler time to complete a consecration and to move to the next standard in line.

Standartenführer) and then, still holding the cloth of the “Blood Flag,” would move to the next standard in line where the same procedure would take place until all the new standards had been consecrated.3

At the 1933 Reichsparteitag, “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards of the SS are consecrated. Grimmelinger has lowered the “Blood Flag” while Hitler consecrates a standard. Commanders of the SS Standarte stand at attention. Röhm and Himmler stand behind Hitler (as was usual). It was at the 1933 Reichsparteitag that consecrations became more formal and regimented compared to consecrations of earlier years.

3 An excellent visual account of the consecration process can be seen in the film “Triumph des Willens” by Leni Riefenstahl.
Consecrations at the 1935 Reichsparteitag. The standards at the front have just been consecrated. Hitler has now moved to the second line. The SA Standartenführer, commander of Standarte 9 of Gruppe Mitte, has moved over from the "Mansfeld" standard to allow Hitler access to it. After consecrating the "Mansfeld" standard Hitler will consecrate the "Wittenberg" standard and continue along that line of standards.

NSKK Motorstandarte Standard "M75" has just been consecrated at the 1935 Reichsparteitag. With one hand continually holding the cloth of the "Blood Flag", Hitler shakes hands with the commander of the Motorstandarte.
The importance of the consecration process is illustrated in this photograph from the 1935 Reichsparteitag as depicted by the dedication on Hitler's face and his grip on the cloth of the "Blood Flag". SS Reiter Standards 11 and 12 have just been consecrated.

Hitler consecrates the SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWAClE" Standard "Fehrbellin" at the 1936 Reichsparteitag. Curiously, this standard was originally scheduled for consecration at the 1931 rally at Brunswick. The commander of the Standarte gives the salute and then shakes hands with Hitler who holds the two cloths together in his other hand.

SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWAClE" Standard "Leobschütz" was also consecrated at the 1936 Reichsparteitag. Hitler holds the two cloths in one hand as he shakes hands with the SA Standarte commander.
NSKK Motorstandarte 45 has its standard consecrated at the 1936 Reichsparteitag. The leader of the Standarte comes forward to shake the hand of Hitler and gives the salute. The NSKK Standartenführer to the right of the photograph awaits the consecration of his Motorstandarte's standard.

At the 1938 Reichsparteitag the SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Braunau a/Inn" is consecrated. The method of consecration seems to have changed slightly here. The standard is consecrated while mounted in the bandolier.
Consecrating Sturmfahnen with the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard

After a "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard was consecrated by the "Blood Flag" it could be utilized in the consecration process. The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard could consecrate the Sturmfahnen of its Standarte, and in the case of another Standarte not having been awarded a standard, it could be used to consecrate their Sturmfahnen as well.

Stabschef Röhm consecrates new Sturmfahnen with the SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Döbeln" in April 1934.

Hitler consecrates new SS Sturmfahnen with the "Blood Flag."

Such consecrations of Sturmfahnen by a "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard were normally restricted to the SA, and SS Sturmfahnen were often (perhaps always) consecrated by the "Blood Flag."

Again, another standard of the SA is consecrated at the 1938 Reichsparteitag mounted in the bandolier. At all previous rallies held from 1933, the standards had been consecrated with the staff on the ground. No reason has been found for this change.
The consecration of Sturmfahnen by a "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard was carried out by Röhm (and later by Lutze). On other occasions such consecrations were carried out by an SA-Obergruppenführer or Gruppenführer. One such example of consecrations of Sturmfahnen by an SA-Gruppenführer took place on March 18, 1934 in Elbing when SA-Gruppenführer Schoene consecrated five Sturmfahnen at the same time with the SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Westpreussen" of SA-Standarte 148, Gruppe Ostland. Three Sturmfahnen of Standarte 148 were consecrated, R4/148, R6/148, and 21/148, and also two Sturmfahnen from Standarte 136, 1/136, and 3/136, as the Standarte did not have its own "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard at this time. Its Sturmfahnen were consecrated by the standard of neighboring SA Standarte 148.

SA-Gruppenführer Schoene consecrates five Sturmfahnen at the same time with the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Westpreussen."

The consecration took place as the bearer of the standard lowered the staff allowing easier access to the cloth. The five Sturmfahnen are held toward the standard, horizontally, while Gruppenführer Schoene grasps the corners of the five Sturmfahnen cloths and touches them with the cloth of the standard. The following words were spoken by Schoene during this consecration. "In the name of the Obersten SA-Führer I consecrate these Sturmfahnen awarded to your Sturmen. I will expect that behind the Sturmfahne the SA men will loyally march. The Sturmfahne is your guidance of truth, always stay loyal to your Führer."

The NSKK is also known to have carried out this practice where NSKK Sturmsstander would be consecrated by the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard of its Motorstandarte.

NSKK Sturmsstander (company pennants) are consecrated in a group ceremony. The NSKK had been presented with three 1923 pattern "center-hanging" style "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards. It is this type being used for consecration purposes in this photograph.

The consecrations of Sturmfahnen/Sturmsstander could take place individually or in groups.
CHAPTER 16

Oath Taking from a "Deutschland Erwache" Standard

The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard could also be used for oath taking ceremonies. The procedure was simple; the new recruit(s) would hold the wreath of the finial in one hand and recite the oath of allegiance. The standard(s) would be lowered to allow access to the wreath. One would assume that the standard cloth was utilized for this oath taking process, however, it was considered harmful to the silk of the standard cloth to have it held each time of the oath taking.

On the evening of the anniversary of Horst Wessel's death, Sturmführer of SA-standarten take the oath in Berlin's Horst Wessel Platz.

A recruit in SA-Standarte "Berlin-Lichtenberg" takes the oath of allegiance. The oath is taken while holding the wreath of the standard finial. The standard is lowered to allow easier access to the wreath. The photograph was taken in February 1939.

Members of the Flemish NSKK take their oath of allegiance holding the cloth of NSKK "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "M76," Circa 1942. (NSKK Motorstandarte M76 was located in Aachen.)

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CHAPTER • 17

Regulations and Orders governing “Deutschland Erwache” Standards

POSITIONING OF UNATTENDED STANDARDS

Once a “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard was consecrated with the “Blood Flag” the same time regulations applied to this standard as to a military standard. At no time should the cloth touch the ground once it was consecrated. When the standard was left unattended it was to be kept in an upright position. As with all consecrated standards it was unacceptable to lean the standard against a building or tree, etc.

In accordance with regulations, SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards were kept in the upright position in special wooden frames while being stored before an event. An SA man stood guard over them. When standards were stored in a church which would have public access, the area with the standards was roped off.
Massed "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards are held in the Bavarian Army Museum in Munich, in readiness for the annual commemoration of the November 9th Putsch. This photo was taken shortly before November 9, 1936. All the standards are held upright according to regulations in special wooden frames.

During the state visit of Mussolini to Munich in September 1937 the SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Oberbayern" was left unattended. Ingeniously, the standard is held almost upright in the street by two of the unit's Sturmfahne since these were also consecrated flags. Such a display was probably an acceptable translation of the regulations.

At an event held in the area of Niederrhein, five "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards prop each other up, an acceptable translation of regulations. Likewise, groups of battalion flags (Sturmfahnen) are held off the ground by being propped against each other.

SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards are kept in an upright position by resting against a wall, probably before a rally. This form of maintaining the standard in an upright position was, strictly speaking, against regulations.
Position of Standard on March or Parade

When a Standarte was on march or parade the standard was carried at the head of the column. Directly behind the standard would be the battalion flags (Sturmfähne).

During the famous annual “Vorbeimarsch” through Nürnberg at the time of the Reichsparteitage, all “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards passed en masse. Behind them the battalion flags followed, also en masse.

It is of interest to note that at events there was a sequence to the line up of standards depending on importance. Standards given special importance were:

Concerning the Naming of Standards

In the case of SA and SS “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards (center-hanging cloth types) bore a name on the box. In the majority of cases the name was the town or city where the unit was located. In the case of more than one unit being located in a city, a Roman numeral could be placed after the name to differentiate another unit.

No “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard could be presented to a unit without the approval of Hitler.

Historical, non National-Socialist names were not considered, therefore, any application by a unit for such a name would be refused.

In the event of an honor/martyr’s name being awarded to a Standarte, this would be done in two ways. Sometimes, such a name was given directly by Hitler, himself, to a Standarte, or the Standarte, believing that it had suitable grounds to ask for a honor/martyr’s name to be awarded, would apply for the name in the following way: The Standartenführer (or Führer of the Standarte) would apply in writing to the leader of his SA or SS Gruppe. Then the application would go to the SA or SS head office. If both the SA or SS Gruppe leaders, and the head offices, agreed that there was a case for such a name to be awarded, the application would be sent to Hitler. He, alone, would give his approval or rejection. In the case of rejection there was no procedure for appeal.

SEPTEMBER 1933

The “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard Box “Reverse Order”

In September 1933, after the Reichsparteitag, an important change was made to all existing SA/SS “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards. The name box, which had up to this time carried the name of the city or martyr on the reverse and the designation “NSDAP” on the obverse, were now to have the box reversed to show the city or martyr on the obverse and NSDAP on the reverse. All existing standards were reassembled with the box reversed. All future standards were to be assembled in this fashion.

This important change was based on an official order. Such an order of importance regarding the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards would presumably have come only from Hitler himself. The actual order has yet to be found.

The first Party Rally after this change was held at Bückeburg on October 1, 1933.
Although no actual order has so far surfaced concerning the "reversing" of the boxes, the book Die Uniformen der Braunhemden, published by Frz. Eher. Nachf. in Munich 1934, refers to this change having taken place in September 1933. Page 85, illustrated below, details the SA Sturmfahne and Feldzeichen. The caption reads, "The SA Standard" (here the standard of Standarte 5, Berlin, bearing the name "Horst Wessel") with an awarded name. Standards carried from September 1933 had the name on the front of the box while the letters NSDAP appear on the other side of the box.

The covering of "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards in the "Organization Books of the NSDAP (1936-1943)"

The first Organization Book of the NSDAP was published in 1936 (although Espe's Das Buch der NSDAP had been published in 1934 which did include some organizational and uniform detail) and, for the first time, attempted to cover the organization, uniforms and insignia along with pennants, flags and standards of the NSDAP political formations in some depth.

The covering of the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards within these volumes was never complete. (Standards of the SA-Reiterstandarte and the SS Motorstandarte were never shown). Following are all the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" type standards as shown in the Organization Book series. It should be pointed out that the books did not come out every year between 1936-1943.

Organization Book 1936
SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "München"—fine color illustration (however, the artwork does not show the special badge at the bottom corner of the cloth which was carried from 1926). The text gives a basic description of the standard.
NSKK "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "M86"—fine color illustration. The text gives a basic description of the standard.
SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "München"—fine color illustration. The text gives a basic description of the standard.

Organization Book 1937
As 1936

Organization Book 1940
SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "München" (as previous years).
NSKK "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "M86" (as previous years).
SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Julius Schreck," originally the SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "München" had been illustrated, thus, a correct change in the organization book.
SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Reiter-Standarte Standard "15"—fine color illustration but no specific text.
(The NSFK is included for the first time although no flags or standards are shown.)

Organization Book 1943
SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "München" (as previous years).
NSKK "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "M86" (as previous years).
SS "Führer-style" Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler Standard shown for the first time as a fine color illustration, but no specific text.
SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Julius Schreck" (as previous years).
SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Reiter-Standarte Standard "15" (as previous years).
NSFK Standard for Standarte 26—fine color illustration.
Martyrs & Honored Names Awarded to “Deutschland Erwache” Standards

THE PRACTICE OF AWARDING THE NAME OF A MARTYR OR HONORED NAME TO A STANDARD

The practice of awarding the name of a martyr or honored name of a dead National Socialist is thought to have been started in 1929 with the presentation of SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards “Kütemeyer,” “Knickmann” and “Schlageter.”

The standards bearing the names “Horst Wessel” and “Emil Müller” were awarded in 1931 at the SA-Treffen in Braunschweig.

Although many SA Standarte applied through “channels” to have a martyr’s name or honored name awarded to their respective standard (or to be presented with a standard bearing such a name if they did not already have a standard), a large number of these requests were denied by the time they were presented to Hitler.

The basic criteria for the granting of names was as follows:

1. Generally in the case of martyrs, such names were only granted for display on a standard in exceptional circumstances (such as “Horst Wessel,” “Knickmann,” “Schlageter,” etc.). Most martyr’s names were given to the Sturmfahne (battalion flag) of the Sturm that the martyr had belonged to.

2. Honor names were sometimes granted for display on a standard. Usually these were for persons holding a rank of Standartenführer and above (i.e., it would have been acceptable, in principle, to use the name of a leader of a Standarte, usually a Standartenführer who had died either as a martyr or by natural causes). Other acceptable honor names were of SA/SS members, etc., that also held the rank of Gauleiter and who may have died as a martyr or by natural causes.

3. If a Standarte was already awarded a standard bearing a place name and was later awarded a martyr or honored name, the original box of the standard was replaced with one bearing the newly awarded name. Such an example was the name “Fritz Todt,” who held the rank of SA-Obergruppenführer. Todt was killed in an air crash in 1942. His name was personally awarded by Hitler to SA-Schützenstandarte-1 whose standard bore the name “München II.” This box was replaced with one bearing the name “Fritz Todt.”

The above letter from an SA Gruppenführer on the staff of the SA in Gruppe Südwest stated that although it is acceptable to change names on existing standards (presumably to martyr/honor names), fundamentally, standards should bear the name of the region, district, or on occasion when it has a special meaning to the Standarte, the town where it is located. The letter goes on to say that the names of killed SA men are to be granted for Sturmfahne first. The only time they would be considered for standards is when the name has special importance, i.e., “Horst Wessel.” Normally, only SA personnel with ranks of Standartenführer and above who were killed during service would be considered. Names of historical persons would not be considered.

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1 There seems to be some confusion even during the 1930s as to the exact date that these three names were presented although the 1933 produced book “Deutsche Uniformen Album: SA SS FH” states 1929.

2 All period documentation surviving agrees that these two Standards were consecrated in 1931.

3 From the period of 1920 until January 1933 over 200 members of the NSDAP had died fighting for the movement.
4. Martyrs/honored persons whose names were put forward for consideration for award to a standard would only be considered if the person had been a member of the N.S.D.A.P.

5. The martyr/honor name being put forward for consideration for award to a Standarte had to have significance to the area the Standarte was based or to have been a member of the Standarte asking for the award of the name. (Such an example was Wilhelm Gustloff who was murdered by the Jew, David Frankfurter, in 1936 while Gustloff was head of the Davos section of the Ausland organization. Wilhelm Gustloff had been born in Schwerin and in 1938 Hitler personally gave the name "Wilhelm Gustloff" to SA-Standarte 89 which was located in Schwerin. Their standard "Schwerin" was changed to "Wilhelm Gustloff" in time for the 1938 Reichsparteitag.

SA & SS "center-hanging" type "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards.

The name was carried on one side of the box mounted below the eagle and wreathed swastika finial. The other side of the box carried the designation N.S.D.A.P.

SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Curt Kreth" is seen at the 1937 Reichsparteitag.

The New "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "HORST WESSEL"

The name of the most famous National Socialist martyr, Horst Wessel, who was murdered by communists in 1930 was awarded to SA Berlin-based Standarte 5 at the SA-meeting at Braunschweig in 1931. This photograph shows the new standard at the SA-meeting. The bearer of the standard holds it with the reverse showing so that the photographer can photograph the "Horst Wessel" name.
The “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard
“FRITZ TODT”

Gauleiter Wagner’s funeral in 1944 was one of the few occasions that the “Fritz Todt” standard was seen in public. Fritz Todt died in an air crash in 1942. In 1943 his name, as a martyr of the National-Socialist movement, was awarded to SA-Schützen-Standarte 1. Previous to this award, they had the standard of “München II” (one of the first four standards), and from 1943 the box was changed to that bearing the “Fritz Todt” name. It is unknown what happened to the old box when these changes were made.

The funeral of Gauleiter Adolf Wagner. Flags and standards are displayed at his funeral which was held in the Kongressaal of the Deutsches Museum, Munich, 1944. Grimminger holds the Bloodflag directly behind the coffin. To the left of the photograph are the standards “List” and “München.” To the right is the standard “Fritz Todt,” an enlarged view of which is shown above. Interestingly, this funeral was one of the last times that the Bloodflag and any of these three Standards were seen.

Discrepancy in the naming of the “Kütemeyer” SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard

The “Kütemeyer” name is thought to have been awarded to SA-Standarte 2 located in Berlin at the 1929 Reichsparteitag.

The “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard bore the name on the box, and was spelled “Kuetemeyer.” It is interesting to note that Cord von Einem in his 1934 book Abzeichen und Dienstgrade der SA shows the cuffband “Kütemeyer” spelled using the umlauts and also official correspondence detailing honored names awarded also uses the spelling “Kütemeyer.”
At some point between 1937 and 1939 the box for the standard of SA-Standarte 2 was changed from "Kuetemeyer" to "Kütemeyer." No information has yet come to light detailing this spelling change to the name.

SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Kuetemeyer" being paraded during the "May Day" celebrations on May 1, 1937. Note the spelling of the name "Kuetemeyer" and the silvered plaque just visible above the standard cloth on the pole.

SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Kütemeyer" during a rally held in 1939. Here one can see the revised spelling to the box. Note again the silvered plaque on the pole just visible above the standard cloth.

A document dated October 25, 1935 which details martyr/honor names awarded. Note the spelling of "Kütemeyer" bearing the "u" with umlauts while the standard itself bore the spelling "Kuetemeyer."
SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards are marched past one of the Ehrentemples in Munich. As was usual with such marches, honor/martyr named standards were in front. At the front of this march are the standards of "Julius Schreck," "Loeper" and "Friedrich Schlegel."

NSKK "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards
Two known variations of the way names were placed on NSKK standards exist:

1. The name is of hand-embroidered silver wire and in Gothic lettering on both sides of the dark brown wool Standarte patch which is positioned directly below the Motorstandarte number.

2. The name is hand-embroidered onto a strip of dark brown wool (in off-white cotton or silver wire) on both sides and is looped over the top of the standard next to the Motorstandarte patch.

A NSKK recruit takes his oath of allegiance while holding the cloth of the standard. Note that the "Ernst vom Rath" name strip has now been removed and a new Standarte patch fitted.
It is likely that the manner of affixing a strip of cloth bearing the martyr's name next to the patch, as in the instance of Ernst vom Rath, was a temporary procedure. Certainly, in this particular case, the standard for NSKK Motorstandarte M30 later had this strip removed and the Motorstandarte patch changed with one bearing the “Ernst vom Rath” name directly below the M30 designation.

NSKK “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard M30 is seen to the left of the photograph. Motorstandarte M30 was located in Berlin. After the death of Ernst vom Rath in 1938 it was to receive this martyr's name. This photograph was taken in 1938.

NSKK “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard M30 with the newly awarded martyr's name of “Ernst vom Rath” mounted to the cloth next to the Standarte patch. This photograph was taken at Ernst vom Rath's funeral in November 1938.

SA Reiter-type “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards

The name would be carried on one end of the tassel streamers. The other end carried the word “Standarte” along with the Standarte number. The one piece streamer was wrapped around the finial and fell down the staff alongside the standard cloth.

SS Reiter and Motorstandarte-type “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards

No names are known to have been awarded to SS Reiter and Motorstandarte standards between the period of 1935 (their respective dates of introduction) and 1945. If such names had been bestowed they would have been placed, presumably, in the same manner as those on NSKK standards.
NSFK Standards

The name was carried on the standard cloth. It was finely hand-embroidered in silver wire under the Standarte number directly onto the red silk on both sides.

Hitler consecrates Polizei Sturmfahne at the 1938 Reichsparteitag. Behind him are standards of the NSFK, among which is the standard of NSFK Standarte 58 which was awarded the honor/martyr's name “Arnold Schrabm.” NSFK Standarte 58 was located in Augsburg, Westfalen.

Breakdown of Martyr/Honor Names awarded to Standards between 1929-1945

The following sources have been utilized to compile the breakdown of martyr/honor names awarded to standards.

3. Visual identification of martyr/honor names on standards seen in period photographs and, when possible, such names confirmed utilizing records held by the Berlin Document Center.

It is possible that other martyr/honor names not featured in the following breakdown were awarded. The author would be grateful to hear from anyone having information detailing martyr/honor names that are not listed.

In respect to the “center-hanging” SA/SS type standards, wherever possible, the former name (if applicable) has been recorded. However, it has to be remembered that in the original documentation the former name was not always recorded (particularly the SS).
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<th>Former Name on Box (If Applicable)</th>
<th>Name Awarded To</th>
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<td>4. Horst Wessel</td>
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<td>7. Karl Freiburger</td>
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<td>Ostland</td>
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<td>12.1933</td>
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<td>8. Heinrich Fürg</td>
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<td>9. Hermann Pumföder</td>
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<td>Westfalen</td>
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<td>12. Daniel Sauer</td>
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<td>Standarte 11</td>
<td>Franken</td>
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**Thüringen**

*The name Thüringen is given in SC-Standarte 135.

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<td>2. Looper</td>
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<td>3. Friedrich Schlegel</td>
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<td>4. Siegel-Dormarsch</td>
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<td>5. Fritz Weitzel</td>
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<td>6. Kurt von der Ahe</td>
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<td>7. Otto Planetta</td>
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**NSKK**

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**Martyrs and Honored Persons in profile**

The following are historical profiles of a few martyrs and honored persons whose names were awarded to standards after their death.

The post-1945 period has seen the need of the “victors” to characterize these martyrs to the National Socialist cause, and assassinate them they have. The lies, that have been spread about the martyrs of the National Socialist movement, persist to this day. Obviously, they are kept alive by those that hate everything about the NS regime, and also by supposedly objective historians who do not research their subject properly and fall into the trap of utilizing material written after 1945.

The author of this book was not born until well after 1945. His interest is one of objective historical research of the National Socialist regime and it is within this framework that he has researched the historical background of these martyrs and honored persons.

It is important to note that the National Socialist leadership went to great pains to check the background of a member who had been killed or died for their National Socialist beliefs. The leadership was aware that to create a martyr for the cause, who had some dubious background would be playing straight into the hands of their enemies.

The reader can be assured that the following martyrs and honored persons had the cleanest of backgrounds, and the majority of them were brave individuals fighting for their beliefs.
By examining the following profiles, the reader will gain a greater understanding of why the names of such individuals were awarded to standards.

**SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” STANDARD**

**“SCHLAGETER”**

*Born: August 12, 1894*  
*Died: May 26, 1923*

The name of the martyr “Schlageter” was awarded to SA-Standarte 39 of Gruppe Niederrhein.

Albert Schlageter was born in Schönau in the Black Forest. During his service with the army in the First World War he received both the Iron Cross 2nd Class and 1st Class. After the war Schlageter joined various Freikorps and took part in expeditions to the Baltic and Upper Silesia. In 1922 after the French occupation of the Ruhr area, Schlageter joined the NSDAP and actively engaged in sabotage against the French.

Schlageter was caught by the French after blowing up a bridge on March 15, 1923. He was tried, found guilty and executed by a firing squad on May 26, 1923. Schlageter became a German hero and a martyr of the movement almost instantly.

In 1933 after Hitler became chancellor of Germany a monument was erected in honor of Schlageter at Golzheimer Heide near Düsseldorf. The monument was designed in the form of a large and impressive cross that could be seen far across the horizon.

Housed under the monument was a Schlageter Memorial Museum which created in 1933 a special badge in honor of Schlageter. This badge was awarded to members of any of the numerous Freikorps organizations which could prove honorable service. This badge, in oxidized silver, was oval with an outer oakleaf and laurel wreath border. The center bore a large cross over the Schlageter name, symbolic of the Schlageter Honor Monument. Silver bars could be added to the badge indicating the Freikorps member’s service. A bar displaying the place of service was added to the left of the cross and a bar displaying the dates of service were to the right. In all, six area bars were available and from one to all six could be mounted if the member had performed the service.
A rally badge struck to commemorate the erection of the Schlageter monument at Golzheimer Heide near Düsseldorf.

Schlageter Day in Düsseldorf. The special “Schlageter” memorial day, on May 26, 1933 at Golzheimer Heide, Düsseldorf.

Inside the Schlageter Memorial. This photograph shows the memorial plaques to Schlageter housed inside the memorial building.

“Schlageter Badge of Honor”—the oakleaf/laurel wreath form in oxidized silver. Bars indicating the Freikorps member’s service could be added. These were: Baltikum-1919/20, Grenzschutz-1919/20, Käpten-1919, O/Schlesien-1921, Rhein/Ruhr-1919/23 or 1923/24, and Spartakus-1919/23. This same badge was produced in a shield form also. The laurel/oakleaf wreath type is the more commonly encountered.
SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" STANDARD
"KNICKMANN"
Born: August 24, 1897
Died: June 21, 1923
The name of the martyr "Knickmann" was given to SA-Standarte 137 of Brigade 70, Gruppe Westfalen.

Two photographs showing the commemoration of Ludwig Knickmann's death taken in 1929 at the cemetery of Buer, Gelsenkirchen. If the name "Knickmann" was awarded in 1929 to SA-Standarte 137, it is possible that this commemoration was also a form of consecration for the "Knickmann" Standard.

A poem in honor of "Schlageter" by Wilfred Bade. The ink drawing shows the "Schlageter" Memorial. This poem and drawing were printed in the book Deutschland erwacht.
Ludwig Knickmann was born and raised in the village of Buer near Gelsenkirchen in Westphalia. He joined the army in 1916 and served until 1918. After the surrender of Germany he continued to fight with a small group of nationalists from his village against the communists who were already well entrenched in his hometown area.

During 1920/21 he joined the local, newly-formed Freikorps and in November 1922 became a member of the NSDAP. Ludwig Knickmann and his brother Heinz were also active in an underground struggle against the occupation of enemy troops (French and Belgian) in the Ruhr area. The two brothers, along with many others, made countless attacks on important strategic communication points held by the French and Belgian armies.

During one assault on a Belgian held communication point Ludwig Knickmann with his group (Knickmann was the leader of this underground assault group) ran into a Belgian patrol, fighting developed and Knickmann was shot in the chest. A comrade of his group named Jackstein managed to carry the wounded Knickmann back to the Lippe River and started crossing it. Unfortunately, the Lippe was in high water and flowing fast. Despite many attempts to cross, Jackstein lost his grip on Knickmann, who was swept away by the current and drowned. The day was June 21, 1923.

Ludwig Knickmann was later made a martyr of the NSDAP.

*It was strongly rumored at the time that Knickmann's group had been betrayed to the Belgians by a spy and, as a result the Belgian patrol was lying in wait for Knickmann's group.*

The honor name “Dietrich Eckart” was given to SA-Standarte J3 of Gruppe Hochland.

Dietrich Eckart was born on March 23, 1868 in Neumarkt. He embarked on a career as a journalist and poet. On December 7, 1918 he published the first copy of his own anti-semitic journal *Auf’ gut deutsche.*

Dietrich Eckart’s father, Christian Eckart, born in 1820. He became a prominent magistrate in Neumarkt. Photograph circa: 1890.

Dietrich Eckart’s mother, Anna Eckart (maiden name Bösner). The house in which Dietrich Eckart was born in Neumarkt.
In the summer of 1919 he joined the "Deutsche Arbeiter Partei" while continuing to publish his journal *Auf gut deutsche*. Hitler and Eckart became good friends. Hitler was always interested in reading the articles written by Eckart and to listen to Eckart's ideas. Hitler would call Eckart his "North Star," as Eckart encouraged Hitler's interest in anti-semitism and the nationalist ideal.

In 1920 Eckart wrote the poem "Deutschland erwache" (Germany Awake). This was to become the most famous poem of the movement, and the "Deutschland erwache" slogan would become famous itself throughout the civilized world.

The operation of the NSDAP newspaper *Völkischer Beobachter* was given to Eckart in 1921. He continued to run this paper until his death in December 1923. On November 9, 1923 Dietrich Eckart took part in the Munich Putsch, and for his part in it was imprisoned on November 20. On December 12, 1923 he was released due to ill health. Dietrich Eckart died on December 23, 1923 from a heart attack and was buried in the Berchtesgaden Cemetery on December 30.

A specially struck bronze badge from 1933 commemorating Eckart's death in 1923. The badge bore a relief portrait and also the famous "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" slogan.

A copy of Dietrich's anti-semitic journal *Auf gut deutsch* from December 7, 1919.
Dietrich Eckart took over the Völkischer Beobachter in 1921. Shown here is the heading of the paper from that year.

A copy of the Völkischer Beobachter from February 8, 1923. Note the addition of static swastikas incorporated into the heading.

This shirt belonged to a member of Jägerstandarte 3 "Dietrich Eckart," and illustrates the honor cuff title.

The final, large format Völkischer Beobachter from August 29, 1923. Note the standard top style eagle and wreathed swastika, possibly utilized from Otto Gahr's design.

The "Dietrich Eckart" cuff title worn by members of SA-Jägerstandarte 3.
Horst Wessel was born on October 9, 1907 in Bielefeld. He was the eldest of three children with a brother named Werner and a sister named Ingeborg. His background was that of the settled middle class. Horst's father, Ludwig Wessel, was a doctor of philosophy and a parson. Unfortunately, he died while Horst was still in school and the three children had to live off their mother's small pension.

At the age of 18 Horst entered the Rössener Corps Normania as a law student. One year later he was accepted into the well-known Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Berlin where he continued his studies. Simultaneously, he joined the "Bismarckjugend," one of the many right-wing, para-military groups that existed in the 1920s. A short time later Horst joined the "Wikingbund" under Captain Ehrhardt.

On December 7, 1926 Horst Wessel joined the NSDAP with membership number 48434. His red membership book carried a photo of himself still in a "Wikingbund" uniform.

Although Horst had continued his studies he was now forced to leave due to lack of funds. Taking whatever manual labor he could find, Wessel gave his spare time to the NSDAP, and became a SA-Mann in Sturm 1 of Standarte 4, Berlin.

Horst Wessel became respected within his Sturm and his leadership qualities had already been noticed by his superiors. By 1929 he was promoted to Sturmführer and placed in charge of Sturm 5, which was by many accounts one of the most undisciplined Sturms in Berlin.

Wessel was an excellent choice as Sturmführer of Sturm 5, and brought order, respect and discipline to this impoverished and unruly SA-Sturm. It was the classic Hollywood scenario of a leader winning over the respect of the reluctant soldiers.
In late 1929 Sturm 5 with their Sturmführer, Horst Wessel, paraded through the streets of Nürnberg during the Reichsparteitag.

Later, back in Berlin, Sturm 5 became involved in some of the fiercest street fighting against communists with Wessel leading repeated attacks on the “reddest” street of Berlin, the Rölliner Strasse.

On January 14, 1930 Horst Wessel was shot by communists. Although badly wounded he was still alive and taken to the Friedrichshain Hospital in Berlin. The shooting was reported in the Party newspaper Völkischer Beobachter. Horst Wessel died of his wounds on February 23, 1930.

The Völkischer Beobachter wrote in its edition of February 25: “Horst Wessel, who was thought to have been saved, had taken a turn for the worse over the last few days. He died after all on Sunday morning February 23, 1930 from his injuries. The murderer’s shot had gone through the mouth, as is well known, and had smashed the upper jaw and tore the carotid artery. While forming one abscess after another, gradually the blood and bullet splinters came out. However, on Friday, blood poisoning started leading to his death.”

Party member Hermann Esser visited Horst shortly before his death, and on the next Sunday morning Goebbels delivered a speech during which he said: “Party member Hermann Esser transmitted to our Wessel on his bed of pain the last greetings of the Führer. With the thought of the Brown Front and its victory he went into the other world. We shall never forget him.”

The grave stone showing the Horst Wessel name in the St. Nicolai Friedhof, Berlin. Horst’s father was also buried here along with his brother, Werner, who was killed during a skiing trip with the Berlin SA in the Riesengebirge, 1929. (After the war the grave stone was destroyed and the bodies cremated in an effort to destroy any visible signs of this martyr.)

Horst Wessel was given a martyr’s funeral and was buried in the Berlin St. Nicolai Cemetery alongside his brother Werner (Werner had died in December 1929) and his father. Goebbels was true to his word when he said, “We shall never forget him.” Horst Wessel’s song “Die Fahne Hoch!” became the anthem of the NSDAP.
Die Fahnent hoch!

Die Fahnent hoch, die Reihen fest geschlossen,
Die SA marschiert mit ruhig festem Schritt;
Kampfzeiten, die Reaktion und Revolutions!
Marschieren im Geist in unsern Reihen mit.

2. Die Strophen fest den braunen Stahlkloven!
Die Strophen fest den Sturmabteilungsden!
Es kau' sich alles, auch der Milchmann!
Der Kampf für Freiheit und für Vaterländisch an.

3. Zum feierlichen wird bald Atem gefehlt,
Zum Kampfes führen wir alle schon bereit;
Bald fließen Hitler's Schehen über alle Straßen,
Die Kriegerfeuer dauern nur noch kurze Zeit.

4. Ein Denkmal, der dieses Blut gebildet,
Ein' Ruhm'sflug dem, der es zu schaffen mach,
Die nach Horst Wessel bin zum Tod verpflichtet,
Die das Trübe Deutsch's Reich erobert.

Adolf Hitler gemordet von Horst Wessel 1, Berlin
(vom Kommunisten erwunden)

In 1931, at the Brunswick Party rally, Adolf Hitler awarded the name "Horst Wessel" to SA-Standarte 5, Berlin.

Later, after the NSDAP's rise to power in 1933, the former Berlin communist (KPD) headquarters, called the "Karl Liebknecht Haus" was taken over by the NSDAP. This large building was refurbished as the SA Berlin headquarters and was renamed the "Horst Wessel Haus."

SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" STANDARD
"HANS E. MAIKOWSKI"
Born: February 23, 1908
Died: January 30, 1933

The name of the martyr "Hans E. Maikowski" was awarded to SA-Standarte 1, Berlin-Brandenburg.

Hans Maikowski was born on February 23, 1908 in Charlottenburg, Berlin. His schooling took place in Charlottenburg where he joined the Schiller-Realgymnasium. Later, he moved to the Waldorfschule in Stuttgart. It was there that he became interested in politics and at the age of 15 joined the fledgling Hitler youth. It was also at this time that he was given the nickname "Hanne Maiko." From this time on his friends called him "Hanne."

In September 1924 Hans Maikowski joined the Reichswehr as a three-month volunteer. At 16 he was the youngest soldier in the Reichswehr, having
joined the 8th Infantry Regiment at Frankfurt a.Oder. In 1924 he moved to Potsdam and joined the 1.Komp. Freikorps group which he remained with until February 1926, when he joined the SA.

In the summer of 1926 Hans Maikowski took part in the 1926 Weimar Parteitag with SA Sturm 33 and in 1927 became the "Fahnenträger" (Flag bearer) of his Sturm. Later that year Sturm 33 took part in the Parteitag at Nürnberg.

On December 9, 1927 Hans Maikowski was severely wounded during a street battle with communists. Suffering from multiple knife wounds he was rushed to the hospital where it was unsure if he would live. But three months later, he was fit to rejoin his SA unit.

August 1929 saw Sturm 33 and Hans Maikowski as "Fahnenträger" at the Nürnberg Parteitag again. During these "Kampfzeit" years, Sturm 33 travelled throughout Germany to many rallies and was always in the bitterest of street fighting with the Berlin communists.

In 1930 Hans Maikowski was promoted to Truppführer and then with the death of the Sturm's Sturmführer, Herbert Gatschke, on August 29, 1932 during a street battle, Hans Maikowski was promoted again and became the Sturmführer of Sturm 33.

On the historical day of January 30, 1933, Hans E. Maikowski proudly headed his Sturm during a parade at the Brandenburg Gate. It wasn't until the evening that Sturm 33 finally made their way back to Charlottenburg. En route to Charlottenburg they were attacked by a mob of communists. During the bloody fighting Hans Maikowski was once again severely wounded and taken to the hospital.
Freiwilzig gaben sie Leben und Gut, Deutschland erstand aus ihrem Blut!

"Voluntarily they gave the best of their lives, Germany arose out of their blood."

One of the famous drawings by the National-Socialist artist, Mjönir. This drawing depicts Maikowski after being killed by the communists. A ghost-like Maikowski holding the flag of Sturm 33, emerges from his body.

His spirit lives on!

At 12:00pm Hans E. Maikowski died, becoming the first martyr after the assumption to power of the National Socialists. He received a lavish funeral which took place at the Charlottenburg Cathedral and was buried in the Invaliden Friedhof.

A bronze bust of Maikowski was erected in the Berlin Central Publishing House of the N.S.D.A.P. and at the 1934 Reichsparteitag SA-Standarte 1 (Berlin-Brandenburg) was awarded the martyr’s name “Hans E. Maikowski” for their “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard. This standard was later housed in the “Horst Wessel Haus” and was positioned to one side of the “Horst Wessel” standard with the bronze bust of the “Führer” in the center.

During a speech to the SA by Lutze in Berlin, April 1940, the “Hans E. Maikowski” standard can be seen at the front alongside the “Horst Wessel” standard.

SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” STANDARD

“WILHELM GUSTLOFF”

Born: January 25, 1895
Died: February 4, 1936

The name of the martyr “Wilhelm Gustloff” was awarded to SA-Standarte 89, Brigade 11 of Gruppe Hansa. SA-Standarte 89 was located in Schwerin.

Wilhelm Gustloff was born in Schwerin on January 25, 1895 and later resided in Davos, Switzerland. He joined the Auslands Organisation of the NSDAP in 1929 and founded his own group in Davos in 1931.

On February 4, 1936 Gustloff was cold-bloodedly murdered in a Davos hotel by a Jewish student named David Frankfurter. Since there was no capital punishment in Switzerland, Frankfurter was found guilty and imprisoned. The body of Wilhelm Gustloff was brought back to his home town of Schwerin where he was buried.

Gustloff was declared a martyr of the movement.

On May 5, 1937, in the presence of Hitler, a new KdF ship was named Wilhelm Gustloff and was launched by Gustloff’s widow. On August 26, 1938
Hitler gave the name of Wilhelm Gustloff the greatest honor: The standard of SA-Standarte 89, which bore the name “Schwerin,” was from this date to bear the name of this martyr, “Wilhelm Gustloff.”
SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” STANDARD
“FRITZ TODT”

Born: September 4, 1891
Died: February 8, 1942

The honor name of “Fritz Todt” was given to SA-Schützenstandarte 1 of Brigade 85, Gruppe Hochland in 1943.

Der Führer hat die Verleihung des Namens
“Wilhelm Gustloff”
an die Standarte 89, Schwerin, Gruppe Hansa, genehmigt. Die
Änderung der Aufschrift der “Standarte Schwerin” in “Wilhelm
Gustloff” wurde sofort vorgenommen und kann noch rechtzeitig
ausgeführt werden.

Die bisherige “Standarte Schwerin” erscheint also zum
Reichsparteitag als “Standarte Wilhelm Gustloff”.

Der Chef des Amtes
Organisation und Kriegs
I.V.

Standartenführer.

An original document detailing the bestowal of the martyr’s name “Wilhelm Gustloff” to the standard of SA-Standarte 89, Schwerin. It reads: “The Führer agrees to the bestowal of the name “Wilhelm Gustloff” to Standarte 89, Schwerin, Gruppe Hansa. The change of the name of Standarte “Schwerin” to “Wilhelm Gustloff” is to take effect immediately. The existing name “Schwerin” is to be changed to “Wilhelm Gustloff” in time for the Reichsparteitag.”

Dr. Ing. Fritz Todt

Schützenstandarte 1 carried the “München II” standard until the time of this award. From 1943, the standard box was changed to bear the name “Fritz Todt.”

Dr. Fritz Todt was born in Pforzheim, Baden on September 4, 1891 into a prosperous, upper-middle class family. After leaving high school he attended the Munich College of Technology.

In 1914 he joined the Badischen Grenadier Regt. 110 with the rank of Leutnant der Reserve and served on the Western Front. In 1915 he achieved the position of flying observer and then joined Feldfliegerabteilung 70. By 1917 he had been promoted to Chef der Reichsbildtrupp der Armee-Abt. C. In 1918 Todt was wounded in an air battle and was awarded the Iron Cross 1st Class and the Hohenzollernorden.

After the war Todt continued his studies and worked as a civil engineer with the Munich-based firm of SAGER & WOERNER G.m.b.H. He joined the NSDAP on January 5, 1922.

By 1933 he was made Inspector-General of the German Road and Highway Systems. Once in this position Todt created the famous German “Autobahns.” In 1938 he became head of the entire German construction industry including road building and military fortifications, and was ordered by Hitler to build the West Wall. This was achieved by using the so-called “Todt Organization” (literally an army of construction workers) to complete the work.

Todt was appointed Reich Minister of Armaments and Munitions in March 1940 and in 1941 Hitler made him Inspector-General of Roads, Water, and Power.
Verordnungsblatt
der Obersten SA-Führung
12. Jahrgang
München, den 1. Juli 1942
Nummer 2


Der Führer

70. Namenverzeichnis.
Fo 21b Nr 14180
Gruppe Hochland.
Ich verleihle der Schützenstandarte 1, München,
zur Ehrung in den Partizopenen SA-Obergruppenführer Fritz Todt die Bezeichnung:
"Schützenstandarte 1 Fritz Todt".
geth Adolf Hitler.

Der Stabschef

FA Nr. 9140/42.
Der Oberste SA-Führer spricht durch mich folgenden SA-Männern für Verhältnisches Verhalten seine Anerkennung aus:
Wegen besonderer Tapferkeit vor dem Feinde:
Obersturmbannführer Max Reinwald, Stab Oberste SA-Führung;
Obersturmbannführer Rudolf Bär, Standarte Feldkampfrichter;
Obersturmbannführer Josef Plassgur, Sturm 17a, Gruppe Bayer-Brandenburg;
Obersturmbannführer Max Oldenburg, Führer der Sturm 205, Gruppe Berlin-Brandenburg;
Obersturmbannführer Karl Eikmann, Standarte 299, Gruppe Berlin-Brandenburg;
Obersturmbannführer Martin Fietz, Führer des Sturmbann III/F, Gruppe Berlin-Brandenburg;
Obersturmbannführer Hartmut Stegemann, Brigade 27, Gruppe Berlin-Brandenburg;
Sturmbannführer Kurt Moit, Sturmbann V 10, Gruppe Berlin-Brandenburg;
Hauptsturmbannführer Jürgen Steller, Gruppe Berlin-Brandenburg;
Sturmbannführer Kurt Richter, Standarte 12, Gruppe Berlin-Brandenburg;
Sturmbannführer Otto Kühler, Sturm 2, 12, Gruppe Berlin-Brandenburg;
Truppführer Hermann Bartels, Sturm 2, 12, Gruppe Berlin-Brandenburg;
Truppführer Fritz Driegel, Sturm 1, 12, Gruppe Berlin-Brandenburg;
Truppführer Hans Liskow, Brigade 29, Gruppe Berlin-Brandenburg;
Truppführer Christian Ulenstein, Standarte 28, Gruppe Berlin-Brandenburg;

The July 1, 1942 copy of Verordnungsblatt der Obersten SA-Führung detailing the award of the name "Fritz Todt" by Hitler himself to SA-Schützenstandarte 1.

For Todt’s construction of the German “Autobahn” system and the West Wall, Hitler bestowed on him the German Order, an award created by Hitler and intended to be given only to individuals who had rendered special services to the German people. Todt was the first to be awarded the German Order.

Dr. Fritz Todt was killed in an air crash at Rastenburg in East Prussia on February 8, 1942. His funeral took place in the Reichskanzlei and his remains were buried in the famous Berlin Invaliden Cemetery. In 1943 a "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard bearing the name box "Fritz Todt" was awarded to the SA-Schützenstandarte 1. This was probably one of the last awards of a “honor name” to a "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard.

SS “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” STANDARD
"LOEPE"  
Born: October 13, 1883  
Died: October 23, 1935
The honor name “Loepe” was given to SS-Standarte 59 located at Dessau/Stassfurt.

Loepe, Gauleiter and Chef des Personalamtes der NSDAP. Circa 1932.

SS-Gruppenführer Loepe, Circa 1934.

The “Fritz Todt” cuff title worn by members of SA-Schützenstandarte 1.
Wilhelm Loeper was the son of pharmacist, Eduard Loeper, from Schwerin/Mecklenburg. At the age of twenty Loeper entered military school and joined the Pionierbataillon 2 Spandau as a Fahnjenjunker. In 1904, at the age of twenty one, he had been promoted to Leutnant. By 1912 Loeper was an Oberleutnant of Pionierbataillon 23 and in 1914 he was promoted to Hauptmann and “Kompaniechef” of Pionierbataillon 19.

On the outbreak of the First World War Loeper was transferred to the Western Front where he was awarded the Iron Cross 2nd Class and 1st Class for bravery. At the end of the war Loeper, like many other soldiers, joined one of the Freikorps groups.

In 1923 he held the position of instructor at the Munich Pionierschule. It was during this period in Munich that Loeper made contact with the NSDAP and on November 9, 1923 took part in the Putsch (he was later to receive the coveted Blood Order number 47). Because of his participation in the Putsch he was arrested, resulting in his dismissal from the Reichswehr.

In 1925 Loeper officially joined the NSDAP with membership number 6980 and became the deputy Gauegeschäftsführer for Gau Magdeburg-Anhalt. In April 1927 Loeper was appointed Gauleiter of Magdeburg-Anhalt. From August 1932 Loeper was also chief of the NSDAP personnel office, and in 1933 was made an honorary Gruppenführer of the SS and a Gauehrenführer of the Reichsarbeitsdienst. Loeper decided to join the SS in 1934 and his SS membership number was 142 592. Himmler gave him the rank of full SS-Gruppenführer.

On October 23, 1935 Wilhelm Friedrich Loeper died of cancer. His funeral was attended by Hitler and he was buried in Mildensee, close to Dessau.

SS “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” STANDARD
“JULIUS SCHRECK”
Born: July 13, 1898
Died: May 16, 1936

The honor name “Juliush Schreck” was given to SS-Standarte 1.

In 1919 Schreck joined Freikorps Epp and was involved in many of the fierce street battles between the Freikorps and the communists in Munich. In 1921 Schreck joined the NSDAP and held Party membership number 53. At the same time he joined the newly-formed NSDAP unit “Turn-and-Sportabteilung” (later to be called the SA).

In March 1923 Julius Schreck and Joseph Berchthold co-founded a special bodyguard unit created for the protection of Hitler. They called this unit “Stabswache” (Staffguard). Two months later this embryo unit was renamed “Stosstrupp Adolf Hitler” and commanded by Joseph Berchthold.

Both Berchthold and Schreck took an active part in the November 9 Putsch. After the Putsch, Berchthold managed to escape to Austria. Schreck was caught and sent to Landsberg Prison.

In April 1925 Hitler ordered Schreck to raise a new “Schutzstaffel” (Protection Squad) which was later abbreviated to “SS.” Initially the “Schutzstaffel” consisted of only eight men, most of whom were ex-members of the old “Stosstrupp Adolf Hitler.” On September 25, 1925 Schreck sent out a circular to all Party groups asking them to set up a “SS” unit. The “SS” unit was to have an elite status, and was to consist of a commander and ten men. The strict conditions for selection as laid down by Schreck were as follows: applicants were to be aged between 23 and 35 and needed to be both strong and healthy, they
The duty of these special "Schutzstaffel" units was primarily as protection squads at area meetings, recruitment of Party members and subscribers/advertisers for the Party newspaper Völkischer Beobachter.

By December 1925 the "SS," thanks to Schreck's tireless work, was a successful but still small organization.

In April 1926 Joseph Berchtold returned from exile in Austria. Schreck handed over command of this new organization to him. Schreck remained in the new "SS" and held SS membership number 5.

Julius Schreck's last position was as Hitler's personal chauffeur. During this time with the NSDAP Schreck was awarded the Coburg Badge and the coveted Blood Order bearing number 349. On May 16, 1936 SS-Brigadeführer Julius Schreck died of cerebrospinal meningitis. A state funeral was held in his honor.

The SS "Julius Schreck" standard at the 1937 Reichsparteitag. This standard had originally been presented to the 1st SS-Standarte with the name "München" in 1933. In 1936 the Standarte was awarded the honor name "Julius Schreck."

SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" STANDARD
"FRITZ WEITZEL"
Born: April 27, 1904
Died: June 19, 1940

The honor name "Fritz Weitzel" was awarded to SS-Standarte 20 located at Dusseldorf in (194?).

Fritz Weitzel was born in Frankfurt a. Main on April 27, 1904. After completing public school he learned the locksmith trade, but shortly changed trades and became a mechanic.

In 1924 Fritz Weitzel joined the N.S.D.A.P and SA (becoming a musician with the Frankfurt SA section). A year later he became an active worker in the
Frankfurt SA headquarters. In 1926 Fritz Weitzel transferred over to the SS with SS membership number 408. He entered a leadership training program and soon assumed the leadership of the Frankfurt SS at the time of their establishment.

By 1928 Fritz Weitzel was in charge of all the SS groups of Koblenz, Trier, Pfalz, and Hessen-Nord, and had achieved the rank of SS-Oberführer. In 1931 Fritz Weitzel was again promoted in recognition of his tireless work for the SS, and given the rank of SS-Gruppenführer in charge of SS-District West.

On May 1, 1933 SS-Gruppenführer Weitzel also became the Chief of Police in Düsseldorf. During a speech to fellow SS members, he stated that he would always remain firstly an SS-Gruppenführer and then Chief of Police, although it was his ambition to fulfill both positions to the best of his ability.

On September 9, 1934 Fritz Weitzel was promoted to SS-Obergruppenführer. A few weeks after his promotion Weitzel flew to London to make a study of modern traffic regulations and current methods of criminal investigation.

During 1936 SS-Obergruppenführer Weitzel instigated new procedures for SS leaders with the rank of SS-Sturmführer upward in SS-District West. As well as having to study the existing SS published guide books, it was now expected that they submit a written essay once a month on specific subject matters. It was Weitzel’s intention that these essays could be later evaluated by the SS-Reichsführung when looking for good leadership qualities. Although Reichsführer-SS Himmler took an interest in this idea it is believed that it was not brought into general practice.

On May 27, 1937 Reichsführer-SS Himmler ordered both Weitzel and Reinhard Heydrich to no longer personally pilot an aircraft. Both of these SS Generals were keen flyers, but with the fatal crash of Adolf Hitler’s adjutant Hauptmann Manzius, the Reichsführer became increasingly worried about los-

The last major rally held in Düsseldorf was in 1943. It was staged as a morale booster for the citizens of Düsseldorf who had suffered from terrible air raids at the hands of the British. At the front of this parade was the “Schlageter” standard of the SA and the “Fritz Weitzel” standard of the SS.
NSKK “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” STANDARD
“ERNST VOM RATH”
Born: June 3, 1909
Died: November 9, 1938

The name of the martyr “Ernst vom Rath” was awarded to NSKK-Motor Standarte 30, located in Berlin and a part of Gruppe Berlin-Brandenburg.

Ernst vom Rath was a young diplomat holding a secretarial position under the German Ambassador in Paris in 1938. On November 9, 1938 vom Rath was murdered by a Jew named Herschel Grynszpan. It was Grynszpan’s idea to murder the German Ambassador in Paris, Count Johannes von Welzlek. Grynszpan went to the German Embassy and asked the receptionist for an interview with the Ambassador. The receptionist inquired as to the nature of his business with the Ambassador. Grynszpan gave no reply and began to behave suspiciously. The receptionist rang for assistance from the inner office. It was most unfortunate that Ernst vom Rath answered the call and proceeded to the entrance hall to assist the receptionist. Grynszpan thinking vom Rath was the German Ambassador pulled out a revolver and shot at him six times. Only three of the bullets hit vom Rath, one hitting him in the foot, another in the shoulder and the third in the stomach. Ernst vom Rath was rushed to the hospital but died on November 9, 1938.

Spontaneous demonstrations broke out throughout Germany against the Jews after this cold-blooded murder. Just two years before Wilhelm Gustloff had been murdered in Davos, Switzerland by David Frankfurter.
The name of the martyr "Alfred Janko" was awarded to NSKK-Motorstandarte M91 located in Salzburg.

Alfred Janko was born in Arnau a. Elbe on May 31, 1900. In 1923 Janko joined the Austrian National Socialist Party (DNSAP) in Salzburg. When the DNSAP and NSDAP was combined Janko was given NSDAP Party membership number 52 204. In November 1931 Janko joined the Motor-SA as a Scharführer (Janko had been a professional chauffeur) with the Salzburg-based Motorsturm 1/59.1

Alfred Janko actively took part in the revolt against the Schuschnigg government in July 1934. This revolt became known as the "July Putsch" when on the morning of July 25, 1934 members of the 89th SS-Standarte stormed the palace of Chancellor Dollfuß in Vienna and also took over the RAVAG radio station situated on the Johannesgasse. It was during this storming of the palace that, apparently by accident, Chancellor Dollfuß was shot by Otto Planetta, a member of the Vienna-based SS-Standarte. After this revolt Alfred Janko and other SA men were forced to flee from the Heimwehr and the police.

The body of Alfred Janko was recovered one week later from the Inn River by customs officials guarding the border between Austria and Germany at Oderberg am Inn, where he had drowned. The exact details concerning his drowning have never been ascertained, however, it is obvious that Janko was trying to escape his pursuers by crossing the river to Germany and drowned during his bid for escape. Janko was buried in the Salzburg Kommunalfriedhof on August 16, 1934.

In August 1934 Adolf Hühnlein became "Korpsführer" of the newly created NSKK and in 1935 the first "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards of the NSKK were awarded. The name "Alfred Janko" was chosen to appear on the standard cloth of NSKK Motorstandarte 91, based in Salzburg.

1 Refer to chapter 3 for additional information on the DNSAP and Sturm 1/59.
CHAPTER 19
Irregularities Concerning the Assembly of “Deutschland Erwache” Standards

One of the most common mistakes in the assembly of the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards was to suspend the cloth the wrong way around. This classic photograph of the “Detmold” standard shows this incorrect assembly. Note the leather patch to the top center of the cloth, where had the Standard cloth been suspended correctly would lie against the staff protecting the silk.

The “Detmold” Standard was awarded to SA-Standarte 55 of Gruppe Westfalen.

The “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard “Landshut.” Members of standarte “Landshut” seemed to have a history of incorrectly assembling their standard. Here the standard is seen proudly displayed by its standard bearer (who carries his windbreaker under his leather bandolier, possibly to cushion the weight of the standard). Notice that the standard cloth has been mounted to the reverse side of the staff (the eagle is facing the other direction).

Also of interest on the reverse side of the “Landshut” cloth is the fact that the swastika does not seem totally symmetrical. The photograph is circa 1925/26.

During a speech given by the Kreisleiter of Neusalz, the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard “Neusalz” belonging to SA-Standarte 56 is lowered. Note again the same mistake of assembling the cloth back to front has been made. The photograph is probably circa 1938.
The curious case of the “reversed swastika” on the finial of SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard “Landshut.”

Photographic evidence shows that the SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard “Landshut” had the swastika mounted the wrong way within the wreath of the finial in approximately 1929.

Interestingly, photographs show that the standard of “Landshut” had been incorrectly assembled on many occasions throughout the 1920’s. It is indeed mystifying, however, how such a blatant mistake could happen. One can assume that during street fighting with communists the swastika was damaged. Possibly because the finials of the first four standards had unscrewable swastikas it was removed for repair and then refitted the wrong way around.

By the early 1930’s the “Landshut” standard is seen correctly assembled and appears to have remained correctly assembled throughout the 1930’s.
A photograph from 1929 clearly shows the “Landshut” standard with the incorrectly assembled swastika.

At the 1934 Reichsparteitag the standard of “Landshut” is carried with the swastika now properly assembled.

Infanterie-Bataillon “Feldhernhalle” in a parade at its Berlin-Güterfelde barracks. Note that the cloth is incorrectly hung with its reverse facing to the front.
CHAPTER 20

Mourning Ribbons Carried on Standards

Under certain circumstances it was necessary for a standard to be displayed in such a manner that signified mourning. This was achieved by tying a black crepe ribbon to it. There were no exact regulations concerning the tying of a black crepe ribbon as a multitude of photographs show that it was tied literally anywhere on the standard and in a variety of lengths.

The most commonly encountered position for the black ribbon on the SA/SS “center-hanging cloth” type standard was around the legs of the eagle. On the NSKK/Reiter-style standards the ribbon was usually tied to the base of the wreathed swastika.

SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards display the black crepe ribbons which have been tied at the base of the wreathed swastika to signify mourning for the Reinsdorf tragedy in 1935.

SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards are marched through town at the time of the Reinsdorf tragedy. They have the black crepe ribbons tied at the base of the wreathed swastika.

1 The tragedy of Reinsdorf was a factory explosion which killed many Party members. The funeral for the dead was attended by Hitler and most senior Party leaders.
The SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Adolf Hitler" has a square-shaped black crepe mourning ribbon attached to the legs of the eagle as opposed to the more usual long thin ribbons. (The photograph is circa 1935.)

NSKK "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards bear mourning ribbons at the funeral of Korpsführer Adolf Hühnlein in 1942. The funeral took place at the Bavarian Army Museum in Munich. Two of the standards have the black crepe mourning ribbons tied around the base of the wreathed swastika and hang by the staff. This is the most common position for the ribbon on this type of "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard.

SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards bear mourning ribbons at the funeral of Gauleiter Hans Schemm in Bayreuth, 1935. The ribbons are again at the most usual position, tied around the feet of the eagle.
CHAPTER \- 21

Streamers carried on
"DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE"
Standards

The practice of carrying streamers on "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards existed almost from the time of conception of the standard itself in 1923. Although an unofficial practice, such occasional compliments to the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard must have had Hitler's approval or perhaps better put, did not have his disapproval.

The streamers generally carried slogans or short poems of a National Socialist nature, while others simply carried the nationalist colors of red/white/black.

This practice of hanging streamers from the standards appears (from photographic evidence) to have died out by the early 1930's.
An interesting swastika streamer is carried on the second standard from the left. In this instance it has been suspended from the collar of the finial.

A combination of a pennant from the Landesschützen Regensburg and a streamer, both from 1923. The NSDAP streamer reads: *Alles für’s Vaterland! Hältler treu ergeben Treu bis in den Tod!* Adolf Hitler wird uns führen einst aus dieser Not. - Bambino 1923. (Loyalty to Hitler, Loyal unto death. Adolf Hitler once will guide us from the misery.) Note: Hitler's name is wrongly spelled with two "t's."

Fine-quality, 37" long streamer purported to have been brought back to the U.S.A. after 1945 still affixed to the "Leipzig II" standard. This style of streamer could have been attached to "Deutschland Erwache" Standards. Photographic evidence may later reveal if it originally belonged with the "Leipzig" standard.
Occasionally, metal plaquettes or rings were fitted to “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards.

The SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards “Berlin,” “Kütemeyer,” “Chemnitz,” and “Sachsen” have been noted as having three plaquettes each mounted to their respective staffs. Although it has not been possible to ascertain what these plaquettes were, they all have one plaquette featuring the Nürnberg 1929 badge design. All four of these standards were at the 1929 Reichsparteitage, but does this mean that every standard at these Reichsparteitage received the Nürnberg 1929 plaque? An invoice sent from Otto Gahr to Hitler on August 22, 1929 details the production of five metal shields. Is it possible that this invoice relates to the manufacture of five metal Nürnberg 1929 shields? If it does, then four of them were presented for affixing to the standards of “Berlin,” “Kütemeyer,” “Sachsen,” and “Chemnitz.”
If a standard-bearer had been killed, a metal ring or plaquette could be added to the wooden staff. In this situation the standard-bearer's name and the date of his death would be engraved on the ring or plaquette.

It was also acceptable to add a ring or plaquette if a regiment had been involved in a particularly heroic battle. The ring or plaquette would then be engraved with the name of the area where the battle had taken place along with the date. Some SS-regiments (SS-VT regiments) and SA Regiment "Feldherrnhalle" would have been eligible for such rings or plaquettes to be mounted to their standard's staff. It is not known however, if this took place.

The second version standard of the "Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler" (surviving in the Moscow Army Museum) has five silver rings fitted just above the collar of the staff top section. The two top rings are 3cm wide and the lower three rings are 1.5cm wide. These rings are without decoration but do bear engraved dedications along with dates. (See under SS, sub-heading "The 2nd version standard awarded to the Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler" for details of these engraved dedication rings.)

Another SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard known to have had a special device fitted to its staff is that of "Oberland." This standard, belonging to Hochland-based Jägerstandarte 1, had a small shield-shaped device just below the joining collar of the lower staff. It is not known what this shield device related to.

This photograph of the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Sachsen" shows the plaques affixed to the lower staff below the joining collar. Of interest is the first plaque which appears to bear an enameled facsimile of the NSDAP Party badge with engraving underneath. Below this plaque is the 1929 Reichsparteitag plaque. The third plaque is obscured by the hand of the standard bearer.
CHAPTER - 23
Configuration of Wording and Devises used on “Deutschland Erwache” Standard Boxes

The hollow metal box produced by Gahr for the SA and SS “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards carried the designation N.S.D.A.P. on one side of the box and the place name, martyr’s name, and occasionally a special symbol on the other side.

The boxes were manufactured in silver-finished metal with red paint backgrounds for the designation N.S.D.A.P. and the name for SA standards, and black paint background for the designation N.S.D.A.P. and name for SS standards.

Very short names, usually comprising of three or four letters had a device on either side of the name. This device could take the form of: 1) a small silver relief circle on each side of the name, 2) a small silver relief diamond on each side of the name, 3) a silver relief mobile swastika on each side of the name, 4) a silver relief immobile swastika on each side of the name, 5) a silver relief swastika inside a silver circle on either side of the name.

Very long names were made smaller overall to fit into the space on the box or occasionally abbreviated.

In the case of cities which had more than one standard, the subsequent standard(s) would have Roman numbers after the name such as München, which also had München II and München III.

Berlin was an interesting city having many standards awarded within it with such suburbs as Berlin-Steglitz, Berlin-Lichtenberg and Berlin-Mitte. Berlin utilized Berlin itself on the standard box and also Berlin IV which was awarded to SA Standarte 4. Interestingly, there was no Berlin II or Berlin III. Possibly two of the martyr’s names had been used instead of these.

The most visually exciting boxes were those bearing special symbols to show the organization or unit such as the symbol used for the box on the Polizei standard which bore a relief silver wreathed eagle/swastika on a black background and with a silver mobile swastika at each side.

The Totenkopfverbände were given four standards in 1938 for the four Standarten: Oberbayern, Brandenburg, Thüringen and Ostmark. These four standards bore a silver relief skull and bones symbol on the black background of the box. Oberbayern had silver relief mobile swastikas on each side. Brandenburg had Roman numerals “II” on each side, Thüringen had Roman numerals “III” on each side and Ostmark and Roman numerals “IV” on each side.

The special symbols used on the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards of the Police and “Oberbayern.”

The Police standard bears the unique box symbol of a silver wreathed eagle and swastika with silver mobile swastikas on each side, on a black background. This standard was awarded in 1937.

The standard of “Oberbayern” also bears a symbol design on the box. This was a fine relief skull and bones with mobile swastikas on each side, finished in silver on a black background. This standard was awarded in 1937. In 1938 three other standards were awarded for “Brandenburg,” “Thüringen” and “Ostmark.” They had Roman numerals on each side instead of the swastikas, a “II” for “Brandenburg,” “III” for “Thüringen” and “IV” for “Ostmark.”
The SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard of "Berlin-Mitte" is held outside the house of Horst Wessel. This standard shows the box with a hyphenated name.

This photograph of SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards shows the long name type box of "Württemberg," an uncommon abbreviated and hyphenated name box of "Württ.,-Süd" and unique static swastikas within circles on the name box of "Ulm." The photograph was taken during the week of the 1938 Reichsparteitag.

The SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard of "Halle" shows the use of relief diamonds on either side of the name. The use of diamonds was less common than the circles. The monument shown in the photograph was the SA monument in Magdeburg.
SS “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards are carried across the Luitpoldfeld and up the steps of the tribune to take up positions under the central, triple swastika banners. Making his way up the steps is the bearer of the standard “Ruhr.” This SS standard has the mobile swastikas while the SA standard for “Ruhr” has immobile swastika’s (Reichsparteitag 1935).

The SA “Ruhr” box with immobile swastikas on each side.

The SA “Graz” box also employed immobile swastikas on each side of the name. The use of immobile swastikas on these boxes was not common.
CHAPTER 24

The Display and Safe Keeping of "Deutschland Erwache" Standards

The display and safe keeping of the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard was of great importance, be it in the Party headquarters or barracks. Originally, the first four standards were kept at the NSDAP Party headquarters. From the early 1930's onward at least two standards were kept on permanent display in the Braune Haus.

The majority of Standarten, be they SS, SA, NSKK, etc., were significantly proud at being awarded a "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard to give it a place of honor either in their Standarte headquarters or barracks when it was not being utilized for a particular rally or function.

The "Hall of Honor" in the NSDAP Party headquarters at Schellingstrasse 50 in Munich. The "Blood Flag" is shown in the centre of the far wall. On either side of the "Blood Flag" were red marble tablets which were inscribed with the names of the martyrs of the Putsch. On either side of these tablets were the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards of "Landshut" and "Nürnberg." This photograph was taken in late 1925.
NSDAP Headquarters, Schellingstrasse 50, München

Schellingstrasse 50 was taken over as headquarters of the NSDAP in 1925 and remained as such until 1931 when the new “Braun Haus” was purchased.

Of the first four “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards dedicated on the Marsfeld in January 1923, three of them were kept at Schellingstrasse 50 (München II had been seized by the police in July 1923 and was not returned until 1933).

The “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard for “München” was kept in the office of the Party treasurer, Franz Xaver Schwarz. The other two, “Landskun” and “Nürnberg,” were displayed in the entrance hall as shown in the photograph on previous page.


NSDAP Headquarters at the Brown House (Braun Haus)

Due to the limited space at Schellingstrasse 50 it was necessary for the NSDAP to find larger premises. In May 1930 the right location was found in the former Barlow-Palais situated on the Brienner Strasse in the heart of Munich. Originally built in 1828, it had by the 1920s fallen into some disrepair which left it open for the internal changes that would be necessary for its use by the NSDAP.

Extensive repairs and alterations were necessary to the former Barlow-Palais. Contributions toward these costs were given by many NSDAP members and in return they were given a special citation which bore a fine lithograph picture of the unrestored Palais. The citation above was given to Hermann Fobke of Stettin who had contributed 5,000 marks.

The citation bears the Reichsleitung hand stamp and the signature of Franz Xaver Schwarz, the Party treasurer, dated 1930.

By 1931 most of the work was completed and the building was renamed the Braun Haus (Brown House). The exterior of the building remained virtually unchanged apart from the perfectly designed entrance by Troost which had a large bronze, double door with cut out swastika designs within panels. Above the door was a bronze panel bearing the dedication "DEUTSCHLAND

The office of Party treasurer Franz Xaver Schwarz. Schwarz, von Pfeifer and Bouhler work at the table. Behind them is the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard “München.” This photograph was taken sometime after July 4, 1926 when the special cloth badge was awarded to three of the first four standards. The special badge can just be seen on the left-hand bottom corner of the standard cloth.

Contributions were made by many NSDAP members to help cover the costs of repairs and renovations to the building. Professor Troost had been brought in to deal with the architectural and design features of the building, and worked closely with Hitler.

3 Hermann Fobke had been Gauleiter of Hannover-Stadt, 1925-1927, was a former member of Stosstrupp Adolf Hitler and had been in Landsberg Prison with Hitler after the unsuccessful 1923 Putsch.
On either side of the doors were two bronze eagles on wreathed swastikas, the wreath of which sat on a small box with the relief lettering “NSDAP.” Attached to the base of this was a bronze staff which was in turn attached to the wall by means of a small bracket.

A close up photograph showing one of the entrance eagles. The two eagles faced toward each other across the entrance.

The front entrance to the “Braune Haus” after restoration. Note the bronze plate above the door bearing the relief slogan “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE,” the eagles on wreathed swastikas which sit on small boxes bearing the designation “NSDAP” (designed loosely on the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard), and the elaborate door with swastika decorations. The door and entrance eagles were also cast from bronze.

The Barlow-Palais at the time of purchase by the NSDAP in 1930. The white notice above the door states that this building has been purchased by the NSDAP. On the roof a temporary round swastika sign was placed bearing the dedication “DEM ERWACHENDEN DEUTSCHLAND.”
Inside the Braune Haus were kept two of the first four "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards. These were the standards bearing the names "München" and "München II" (presumably only one standard was kept there before "München II" was returned by the police on March 21, 1933). The "München III" standard was consecrated in 1926. This standard was also kept at the "Braune Haus."

Various old flags of the movement along with the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "München II" had been seized and confiscated by the police in 1923. It was not until March 21, 1933 that the flags and standard were returned. After their return, a special commemoration line-up took place outside the Braune Haus. The original "München" standard was also brought out for this line-up. Afterward, all the flags and the standard that had been seized were kept in the Braune Haus (it is unknown if they were removed near the end of the war for safer keeping).

Two views of the Braune Haus taken from the right and the left. The new entrance by Troost can be seen along with the new front flanked by pillars bearing lights.

Old flags and standards of the movement paraded outside the Braune Haus.

The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "München II" (later to be renamed "Fritz Todt") is brought into the Braune Haus after ten years of confiscation by the Police.
At the entrance to the Senators' Hall of the Braune Haus are the standards "München III" and "München."

At Schellingstrasse 50, three of the first four standards had been displayed. It is assumed, however, that both the "Landshut" and "Nürnberg" standards were held at NSDAP offices in their respective towns after 1930.

Again, the entrance to the Senator's Hall where Hess greets a group of ladies. Of interest is the Standard of "München" to the right of the entrance whereas in the top photo it is to the left.

The entrance to the Senator's Hall of the Braune Haus. The two "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards are mounted on either side of the entrance to the Senatoren-Saal. On each side of the standards are bronze tablets bearing the names of the martyrs of November 9, 1923.

The Senatoren-Saal (Senator's Hall). Note the fine mosaic eagle and wreathed swastika. To each side of the eagle are important dates in the history of the NSDAP. The ceiling has an alternating pattern including a stylized swastika design. The carpet mirrors the design of the ceiling.
The Ferdinand Liebermann bronze bust of Dietrich Eckart commissioned for the Braune Haus.

With the restoration of the new Party headquarters, Hitler commissioned Ferdinand Liebermann to produce a bronze bust of Dietrich Eckart. This bust was to stand in the main hall of the Braune Haus on a large plinth. Its position was in a corner close to one of the tablets bearing the names of the martyrs from November 9, 1923. This bust has recently been found in Germany. Apparently it had been removed from the Braune Haus by a member of the SS in 1945 and was kept by him from this time. Some years ago he died, whereupon, it remained in the custody of his wife. Recently she also died leaving it to her son.¹ In 1993 it was sold to Mr. John Horne from England.

¹ Unconfirmed, although this is the story of the Eckart bust as told to Mr. John Horne by his German contact.
The Horst Wessel Haus and the 12 
"DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards of Berlin

The Horst Wessel Haus was a large and imposing building in the Friedrichshain area of Berlin. Originally, it had been communist headquarters (Roterfrontkämpferbund) and was called the "Karl Liebknecht Haus" after a communist martyr was killed in 1919.

After Hitler became chancellor on January 30, 1933 the Karl Liebknecht Haus had suffered several police raids and on the night of February 27, 1933, when the Reichstag was set on fire, police rounded up hundreds of communist sympathizers.

On the same night SA Sturm 6/6 took over the Karl Liebknecht Haus. Shortly afterward, on March 8, the swastika flag was raised over the building which was renamed the "Horst Wessel Haus." From this time the building became the new Berlin SA headquarters. Some reconstruction was necessary to the building's interior before the complete transfer of the Berlin SA, at which time a special room was prepared for the display of 12 Berlin-based SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards. The 12 standards on display in the building were: 1) Berlin, 2) Berlin-Wedding, 3) Berlin-Steglitz, 4) Wilmersdorf, 5) Kudetz, 6) Hans E. Maikowski, 7) Horst Wessel, 8) Berlin-Neuköln, 9) Berlin-IV, 10) Berlin-Mitte, 11) Berlin-Kreuzberg, 12) Berlin-Lichtenberg.

The bronze "Dietrich Eckart" bust and one of the bronze tablets commemorating the martyrs killed in the November 9th Putsch in the hall of the "Braune Haus."*

*Source material: "Das Braune Haus und die Verwaltunggebäude der Reichsleitung der NSDAP," by Dr. Adolf Dresler.
The building shortly after it had been taken over by the NSDAP. Note the communist signs "Die Rote Fahne" have yet to be taken down.

An article was published in the specialist magazine *Zentralblatt der Bauverwaltung* in 1942 detailing the construction and decoration of the special room of Standards held in the Horst Wessel Haus. This article translated into English for the first time follows:

**"The room of Standards in the Horst-Wessel-Haus Berlin."**

During the transfer of SA-Group Berlin-Brandenburg to the Horst-Wessel-Haus it was observed that there was no room for the dignified display of the standards or for the holding of ceremonial occasions for small groups of people.

To expand, an office with three windows was selected next to a courtyard, with one long side of the premises adjoining the neighboring building. I was assigned to carry out the planning and execution of the work after having been supplied with funds by the Prussian Finance Minister. No more than approximately four weeks were available for this work. For this reason, preparatory work in stone or plaster on the walls and ceiling was skipped in order to avoid any unnecessary moistening of the structure during this short time.

Due to the relatively restrictive measurements of the gallery-like room measuring 5.1x14.2m, with a ceiling of 3.15m high, the walls and ceiling were uniformly paneled in oak, slightly enhanced in light grey. The floor covering is of violet-red, hand-burnished plates of main sandstone. The joints between the plates are filled with aged white limestone.

The inside longitudinal wall of the room displays the standards, with the bust of the Führer in the middle. At one end of the hall, between the two doors
Original pre-construction drawing showing the 12 standards. Their names in accordance with placement within the room are detailed below.

Original pre-construction drawing showing the entire room of standards in front elevation, side elevation and plan.

Original pre-construction drawing showing the central Führer bust with standards on each side in front elevation, side elevation and plan.
leading to the Obergruppenführer's offices, is an honorary plaque with a bronze inscription bearing the name Horst Wessel and the names of the SA men from the Berlin-Brandenburg group killed in the period of struggle. Actual access is from the other, smaller side of the room. In the middle of the room, in the niche with the bust of the Führer, stands an old Renaissance table displaying a memorial book containing more detailed information on the fallen SA men.

During execution of the work, value was placed upon meticulous craftsmanship, which was achieved despite the short time period available for completion. The standards rest with their flagpoles at an oblique angle, on two hand-forged, leather upholstered braces, and rest with their shafts inserted into wooden beams running the length of the wall along the floor.

The completed room of Standards within the Horst-Wessel-Haus. Construction work was faithful to the original drawings.

This enables the standards to remain extended at all times so that they no longer needed to be tied back at times, as is normally the case. This type of securement was used here for the first time. The bronze bust of the Führer, displayed in the midst of the standards, rests on a pedestal of shell limestone (blue bank limestone).

Due to the bright colors of the standards, the bust of the Führer had to be provided with a background, since otherwise it would not have been seen to full effect. A hand-stitched curtain of earth-colored velvet, trimmed with silver and gold galoons, is trimmed at the bottom with a silver and gold fringe.

The wall covering is enhanced by a frieze of silver oak leaves running all the way around the room. The oak leaves are covered with silver foil, cut in leaf form, and stitched with silver thread.

An oak recess above the standards on the longitudinal wall is decorated with the opening words of the Horst Wessel Song: The flag high / With ranks tightly closed / The SA marches / With calm, steady steps. The stele for the Fallen of the Movement bears the second line of the verse: Comrades shot / By the red front and reaction / March in spirit in our ranks.

The names of the dead SA men are then displayed in chronological order with the date of death given first and the bronze plaque in honor of Horst Wessel in the middle (again in chronological order). Both the verse of the song and the names of the fallen are executed in inlaid dark hardwood against light-colored smoked oak. The artist's conception shown here compared to the photo of the finished work clearly shows the difference between design work and handcrafted execution, i.e., the handcrafted interpretation of the indicated text.

The rooms are illuminated by daylight admitted through three large windows. The panes are of white antique glass set in lead. The window points are gilded so that the room gives a uniform impression by artificial lighting due to the glinting of the gilded lead window points. This made it possible to do without curtains which are not usually well suited to a monumental room. Evening illumination is provided by leaf-shaped wall lights. The lights are of embossed brass and silver-plated. The forward most profiles have been left in natural brass color. The door knockers and knobs are hand-forged.

"Fritz Reibel, Senior Government Officer and Senior Construction Consultant."

A park was landscaped across the road from the Horst Wessel Haus and a memorial added. The square was renamed the Horst Wessel Platz along with the closely situated U-Bahn station.²

² After 1945, the building went back into communist hands and was renamed again after a communist martyr.
While not in use the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Landshut" is kept in the Landshut Party headquarters, maintained in a special position of honor with the silk national colors to one side and a swastika to the other. On the swastika-decorated base are fresh flowers. It is interesting to note that this standard retains both its upper and lower staff sections while on display.

The special "Ehrensaal" (Honor Hall) of SA-Standarte 8 located at Frankfurt/Oder which was a part of Gruppe Ostmark. In the center behind a bust of Hitler, is the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard of "Frankfurt/Oder" maintained in an upright position using just the upper section of the staff. Above the standard is a plaque bearing the name of martyrs. On either side of the standard are grouped the Standarte's Sturmfahne.

Display of SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard "Deutschland"

The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard of SS-Standarte "Deutschland" is held at the barracks while not in use. On display in a hall of honor, the standard is held upright on a stand and clamped to the wall. Due to the height of the standard when complete, the bottom half of the wooden staff has been disassembled and held in place next to the upper half by a clamp. The two Sturmfahne of Standarte "Deutschland" are also held upright on either side of the standard.
Accessories for the Protection of the Standard for Bad Weather, Transportation and Storage

No information is available in the form of documentation concerning the protection of the standard against bad weather, transportation or storage.

The photograph below shows the Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler receiving their new standard in 1940. The "Adolf Hitler" standard retains a bad weather, black oilskin cover over the standard cloth while Reichsführer-SS Heinrich Himmler delivers his speech. However, since the new standard was awarded on this day, it is possible that the cover played a dual role of protection of the cloth and to keep its design from view until after the Reichsführer's speech, rather like the unveiling of a masterpiece.

The new standard of Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler complete with black oilskin, bad weather cover over the cloth. It is not known if such covers were generally available or supplied for other standards of the SS, SA, etc.
CHAPTER 26

Background to the Reichsparteitage
(National Party Rally Days) & Reichsparteitag Complex
1923 ~ 43

The first Parteitag (Party Rally) was held on the Marsfeld on the outskirts of Munich from January 27 through 29, 1923. During this three day period various meetings took place in halls throughout Munich and a rally was held on the Marsfeld where the first four “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards were officially introduced for the first time.

The second Parteitag did not take place until 1926 due to the banning of the NSDAP after the November 9th Putsch, and the Party did not reform until 1925. Even in 1926, although the ban on the NSDAP had been lifted, Hitler, himself, was legally bound not to speak publically in many areas of Germany (including Bavaria). It was because of this that Weimar was chosen for the second Parteitag which took place on July 3, 4, and 5, 1926. The third Parteitag took place for the first time in Nuremberg August 19, 20, and 21, 1927. The fourth Parteitag was again held at Nuremberg on August 1, 2, and 3, 1929.

The fifth rally was to be the largest to date, and since it was now held after Hitler had become chancellor and the NSDAP had achieved power, it was officially called the Reichsparteitag (National Party Rally Days) and took place from August 31 to September 3, 1933. From this time Nuremberg was to be the permanent site for all future Reichsparteitage.

“Vorbeimarsch auf dem Adolf-Hitler-Platz” (March-past on the Adolf-Hitler-Platz).

From 1933 there was a traditional march-past on the Adolf-Hitler-Platz in the center of Nuremberg on the Sunday morning after the completion of events at the Rally Grounds Complex.
The consecration of new standards was started at 8:00 am and lasted until 11:00 am. Hitler would leave the Rally Grounds Complex and be driven to the Adolf-Hitler-Platz where large crowds would already have gathered to watch the march. The march would take a pre-determined route starting at the Rally Grounds Complex and conclude at the Adolf-Hitler-Platz. After leaving the Adolf-Hitler-Platz the march would be routed back to the Rally Grounds Complex. There, close to the complex, the “City of Tents” was located where all participants in the rallies were stationed. At the “City of Tents” the various participants would pack in readiness to return to their home stations.

11:30 am on Sunday morning. The consecrations of the new “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards have already taken place and now Hitler awaits the traditional march past all the standards at the Adolf-Hitler-Platz. It was customary for the heads of the various units to be with Hitler as their respective units marched past. This traditional (as from 1933) march would last for hours.

During the march-past on the Adolf-Hitler-Platz (Vorbeimarsch auf dem Adolf-Hitler-Platz) the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard of the Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler poses momentarily before marching onto the Adolf-Hitler-Platz.

A view from the rear showing Hitler in his Mercedes. He would stand in the vehicle throughout the march. In the distance crowds await the march of the standards.

The standard of Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler is marched onto the Adolf-Hitler-Platz. Many wood stands were erected for spectators. Those who were disabled and in wheelchairs were positioned at the front of the stands.
The Nuremberg Rally Grounds Complex

From the time that Adolf Hitler became chancellor on January 30, 1933 he decreed that Nuremberg was to be the permanent site for the annual Reichsparteitag. Work was started almost immediately on the Luitpoldhain and Zeppelin Field areas in preparation of the event.

The following extract is taken from New German Architecture, by Dr. Werner Rittlich and published by Terramare Verlag, 1941. This book details the new "Stadt der Reichsparteitag." Below is a brief extract from the book which gives the reasons behind having a permanent site for future rallies.

"The Führer laid down Nuremberg to be the central rally city rather than various cities as in the past, and therefore the practice of constructing provision- al buildings on unprepared or inadequately provided grounds could be avoided and permanent structures erected in one area. Each building must be construct- ed so that the groups assembled there will always face the Führer. The architec- ture of each must express the relationship between Führer and people and carry the national emblem and swastika flag."

In 1934 Speer was given his first major commission to design a perma- nent stone tribune on the Zeppelin Field. By 1935 work on this tribune was in its advanced stages.

In 1935 a plan originating from Speer for the Rally Grounds was given to Hitler. Speer was planning to combine various grounds and buildings including the Luitpoldhain and Zeppelin Field (which were already operational) into a complete and vast Rally Grounds Complex. Speer, who was a little unsure of himself at this time, persuaded Julius Schreck to mention his idea to Hitler and show him some preparatory sketches. Hitler was impressed with the idea and agreed to the plan.

The new Rally Grounds Complex would require the moving of the existing Nuremberg Zoo to a new site. Other than this, most of the areas needed around the Luitpoldhain and Zeppelin Field were free for the plan. To build such a complex an association for the Nuremberg Party Rally Grounds was cre- ated. SA-Gruppenführer Hans Kerrl was put in charge of the association with Martin Bormann as his deputy. Seven to eight hundred million Reichsmarks were allotted for the building program. The whole Rally Grounds Complex was to be finished by 1943. Hitler had chosen 1943 as it would be the tenth anniver- sary of the permanent Party rally at Nuremberg (it would also be the twentieth anniversary of the original 1923 Party rally).

It is interesting to note that all the permanent stone structures in the Rally Grounds Complex were built to Speer's "Theory of Ruin Value." This theory was based on Speer's view that modern materials were poorly suited to an attractive form of aging or ruin as in the case of buildings of antiquity, which even after 1,000 years, had an attractive appearance as ruins. Hitler accepted Speer's theory and all important buildings from this time were to be built using traditional methods and materials that could, over some hundreds of years, remain attractive and pleasing to the eye.
Summary of work to the Rally Grounds Complex during 1933.

After Hitler became chancellor in January 1933, a large scale relandscape of the Luitpoldhain and Zeppelin Field areas outside of Nuremberg took place and were to be completed for the Party rally in September 1933.

The Luitpoldhain area consisted of the Luitpold Field, Luitpold Hall and the War Memorial. This area had been named after King Luitpold of Bavaria when it was turned into an exhibition park. In 1906, on the occasion of an industrial exhibition, a large steel framed pavilion was constructed on the edge of the Luitpold Field which bore the name "Hall of Machinery." After the finish of the exhibition this pavilion was utilized for grain storage. Another part of the Luitpoldhain was converted into a tram depot and the remaining areas became desolate. It was in this area that the National Socialists held their 1927 and 1929 Party Rallies, and it was in the Luitpold Field that Hitler consecrated the new "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards.

Sketches for the permanent rally grounds complex were made by Hitler himself and later working drawings were finished by Albert Speer and Julius Schulte-Frohlinde.

For the September 1933 rally a huge wooden grandstand was erected surrounded by three towers, ninety-six feet high. Enormous swastika flags, seventy-eight feet long and eighteen feet high, were suspended from these towers. The speaker's platform stood eighteen feet high, the grandstand was capable of holding 1,000 honorary guests, and three other wooden stands were capable of holding 60,000 people. Set to one side of the field was a special stand for the press and quantities of loudspeakers were installed throughout the area so everyone present could hear clearly.

The old pavilion building was renamed the Luitpoldhalle (Luitpold Hall). In 1906 this hall would become the Congress Hall of the Party and underwent some renovation for the 1933 Party rally. These renovations included the walls and ceilings being covered in red and white cloth while the roof support pillars were finished with multi-color mosaics to the sides and eagle and swastika emblems to the front and back. A loudspeaker system was installed throughout the hall along with a spot light system. The central platform could seat 750 Party officials along with 130 musicians as well as standard bearers at the back of the platform. The press were also catered to with two side stands. 16,000 people could be seated inside the hall and smoking was not permitted.

The Zeppelin field was not far from the Luitpoldhain. During the 1800s it had been a forest which had been destroyed by fire and the field was unceremoniously used as a rubbish pit. At the turn of the century this area was cultivated and in 1909 Graf-Zeppelin landed on the field thereby giving it the name "Zeppelinfield." After World War I Nuremberg purchased this area and converted it into a park.

In 1929 the Zeppelin Field was utilized as well as the Luitpoldhain area for the Party rally of that year due to the increasing numbers of participants.

For the 1933 Party rally a large wooden grandstand was built on the southwest side of the Zeppelin Field. Together with this, three additional wooden stands were built around the other three sides of the field which allowed seating for 350,000 people. At the rear of the main stand eight metal 120 feet high posts were erected which was attached a huge, open metalwork eagle and swastika.

After the 1933 Reichsparteitag, preparations were immediately made for a large scale construction of permanent installations on the Nuremberg rally grounds complex. A contingent of 620 men started work erecting two gigantic reviewing stands, each of which was 500 feet in length.

On the rally ground six square miles in size, 270,000 cubic feet of earth were supplied to provide a solid base for a grass lawn that was to cover the entire grounds.

A new stone speaker's stand was erected which stood eighteen feet high and was connected on both sides by stands for the press. At each end of these stands stood a stone tower. Erected on each of these towers was a large bronzed metal eagle perched on a wreathed swastika of the type which is now called the "Nuremberg-style" eagle. These were designed by Kurt Schmidt-Ehmer.

Directly behind the stone speaker's stand were four huge metal flagpoles, all 130 feet high. Fitted to these were three huge swastika flags.
Some of the major work was completed for the September 1934 Reichsparteitag, allowing much of the activities to take place in more lavishly equipped surroundings.

1934
6th REICHPARTEITAG NÜRNBERG

Reichsparteitag der Einheit
(The Party Rally of Unity)
September 5–10, 1934

Summary of work to the Rally Grounds Complex during 1934.

During 1934 a railway station was built to the north-east side of the Zeppelin Field.

Hitler gave Speer his first commission to design a new permanent stone grandstand for the Zeppelin Field. By late 1934 a plaster model was finished of this grandstand or tribune (as it was to be called). Hitler agreed to the design and work was to start on it in early 1935.

Further work was carried out to the Luitpold Hall or Congress Hall (as it was known). The original art nouveau façades were replaced with new limestone front and rear entrances. The outside walls were decorated with small swastika flags. The end of the hall, facing the Luitpold Field, had ten huge swastika flags hanging on either side of the entrance. Set in the center of the massive entrance was a "Führer-Standarte." The work was finished in time for the 1934 Party rally.

1935
7th REICHPARTEITAG NÜRNBERG

Reichsparteitag der Freiheit
(Party Rally of Freedom)
September 10–16, 1935

Summary of work to the Rally Grounds Complex during 1935.

Further development of the Zeppelinwiese (Zeppelin Field) took place between the 1934 and 1935 rallies. Various areas around the Zeppelinwiese were incorporated increasing its overall ground space by a third.

The new grandstand (tribune) designed by Speer was erected on the north-east side of the field. It was erected on this side since the railway station had already been built and was located just behind the stand allowing good access from the station.

With a speaker's platform in the center, the grandstand had all the stone seating banks in place by September 1935, the rest was temporarily finished in wood for use at the September 1935 rally.

Towering over the center of the grandstand was a metal eagle perched on a wreathed swastika which was designed by Speer. It was affixed to eight metal posts which had been used previously for the 1933 and 1934 rallies. At each end of this stand were three swastika flags.

Directly after the 1935 Party rally this temporary wooden stand was disassembled to make way for the permanent stone structure.
Summary of work to the Rally Ground Complex during 1936.

The colossal new Zeppelinfeld grandstand was finished in time for the 1936 rally. It was built of brick and faced with fine white Jurassic limestone. From the center of the grandstand, on each side, was a line of 170 stone pillars. On each end wall, which came out to the edge of the seating area, was a golden swastika within an oakleaf wreath.

The new, enlarged Zeppelinfeld was paved in stone to provide a solid base for the annual army maneuvers. Stone grandstands enclosed the field on the other three sides. 34 towers were evenly positioned along these stands and allowed entry for spectators. Within the towers were washroom facilities.

Literally thousands of spotlights of differing sizes were installed on the stands and grounds to create spectacular lighting effects in the evening.

1936 saw the first plans drawn up by Speer for another area known as the Märzfeld which was larger than both the Luitpoldhain or the Zeppelin Field. This area was to be used for army parades and maneuvers.

The Märzfeld was to be rectangular-shaped measuring 611 meters by 955 meters and enclosed by tiers of seating rising to 48 feet high. Every 360 feet would be a large stone tower and between the towers would be an unbroken wall of swastika flags. Directly opposite the entrance to the Märzfeld was the speaker's stand behind which was a series of arches. On the top of these arches was to be a group of statues by the Munich sculptor, Professor Thorak. The center statue was of the Goddess of Victory. Speer states that this center statue would have been taller than the Statue of Liberty.

Also in 1936 construction was started on a wide parade avenue known as the "Grosse Strasse" which was to connect the Märzfeld with the Luitpoldhain. This avenue was to be 1 1/2 miles long and 264 feet wide. Construction was to be of granite blocks allowing it to withstand a convoy of tanks.

Speer also started work on the plans for a unique German Stadium. This stadium for future sports events was to be the largest in the world and would seat 400,000 spectators! (The most modern and largest stadiums of the time could seat just 100,000). Speer had designed this stadium in the shape of the Athenian horseshoe, with large arches around the horseshoe wall. These arches were also the entry points for access to the seating. Elevators were to be used to quickly move spectators to the upper levels. The building was to be finished in granite; pink granite for all exteriors and white granite for the interior.
Summary of work to the Rally Grounds Complex during 1937.

Throughout 1937 and in time for the Party rally of that year, work was completed on the Zeppelin Field grandstand. The temporary wooden benches were replaced with fine stone seating. At the top of each end wall to the grandstand was placed pedestals with large, bronzed metal bowls. Fires were kept burning in these bowls for the duration of the annual Party rally. The stone floor in front of the grandstand was beautifully decorated with fine mosaic tiles and at the back of the grandstand a granite stone terrace was built. The final work to the grandstand consisted of a golden static swastika within an oakleaf wreath above the center of the building. 40,000 oak trees were planted around the Zeppelinwiese area.

On September 9, 1937 Hitler laid the foundation stone for the German Stadium (this foundation stone was subsequently moved to a special yard where it was to be held until it could be placed into the wall of the building when construction had progressed to that level). This had also been done with the foundation stone of the Congress Hall laid by Hitler in 1935.

Summary of work to the Rally Grounds Complex during 1938.

The groundwork for the German Stadium was begun in 1938. A huge pit was dug for the foundations of the massive stadium. Rail tracks were laid around the perimeter for the transportation of the granite.

Work also continued on the other major projects such as the Märzfeld which had the foundations for the seating tiers finished during this year.
In Nuremberg a new hotel was being built near the railway station and hotel Deutsche Hof. This hotel was to be reserved totally for the use of the press throughout the week of the rally. The hotel was to have its own post office along with special telegraph and telephone facilities.

1939

11th REICHSARBEIT NÜRNBERG

Reichsparteitag des Friedens
(Party Rally of Peace)
September 2–11, 1939

Summary of work to the Rally Grounds Complex during 1939.

August 1939 saw the completion of the avenue known as the “Grosse Strasse” which connected the Marzfeld complex with the Luitpoldhain.

The “Grosse Strasse” had been laid so that by looking down its length from the Marzfeld, Nuremberg castle could be seen directly above the other end of the Strasse at the Luitpoldhain.

Further work was carried out at the Marzfeld itself with eleven of the twenty-six towers having been built.

The Congress hall, which had been started in 1935, was now half completed with the main building work, interiors, outside facing walls and concrete floor finished.

With the cancellation of the 1939 Reichsparteitag due to the outbreak of war most building work was suspended. The Congress Hall was one of the few buildings on which work continued into the war years. Finally, even work on this project was suspended in 1943.

The 1940 Reichsparteitag Badge

Although 1938 was the last Reichsparteitag that took place, some items for the 1939 Reichsparteitag had already been manufactured. Even a few prototype pieces for the 1940 Reichsparteitag had also been produced.
The Luitpoldarena

This drawing shows the Luitpoldarena. The main tribune is at top center, the Luitpoldhalle is at top left. Bottom center, directly opposite the center of the tribune, is the Gefallenendenkmal (War Memorial) built between 1927-1930.

Luitpoldarena Bronze Tribune Eagle and Swastika

One of the massive bronze eagles on the end towers of the tribune, designed by Professor Schmidt-Ehmen.

Gefallenendenkmal

The War Memorial built between 1927-1930 and designed by Nuremberg Architect, Fritz Mayer.

Luitpoldhalle

Used for the Party Congresses (also called the Congress Hall). The existing hall was redesigned with a new front by Speer.

Interior of the Luitpoldhain Hall in May 1915, while it was being used as a granary.

Interior of the Luitpoldhain Hall taken at the 1935 Reichsparteitag.
At the 1936 Reichsparteitag "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards of the SA march into the Congress Hall. Standards of the NSKK are just entering the building. This photograph gives a good indication of the size of the front of the hall.

The German Stadium was to seat an incredible 400,000 spectators. Speer started on the working drawings in 1936 and Hitler laid the cornerstone in 1937. Work was suspended on the German Stadium in 1939.

This massive project was to be used for army maneuvers. Speer finished the working drawings in 1936. Work started in 1937 and was continued until 1939 when further work was suspended.
To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Weimar Party rally held on July 3, 4, and 5, 1926, an anniversary rally took place on July 3, 4, and 5, 1936 with Hitler in attendance. A special commemorative postcard was produced to mark this event as well as a fine quality, bronze rally badge.

The postcard which was produced in full color illustrated a dramatic view of the SA-Thüringen “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard. The postcard bears the designer’s name in small block letters to the base of the standard cloth.
It is interesting to note that the design of the standard on the postcard, the cancellation marks and the rally badge all show the tassels mounted in a slightly unorthodox fashion whereby they loop over themselves at the crosstape and come down over the standard cloth, as opposed to coming down at the sides of the cloth. Such irregularities did occur due to human error in assembling the standard. It is most likely that Wegener, the designer, worked from photographs of the Thüringen “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard and that the standard had been assembled with the tassels in this fashion at the time the photographs were taken, thus, this same irregularity appears in the postcard, the cancellations and the rally badge.

Two years after the anniversary of the Weimar Party rally held in 1936, the Wegener designs were resurrected and utilized on a special commemorative handstamp and postcard for the Thüringen Gauntag held on November 4-6, 1938.
Quantities, Facts and Figures relating to “Deutschland Erwache” Standards

Source Material

Throughout this work Daten der Geschichte der NSDAP by Dr. Hans Volz (published in 1943) has been utilized for the figures of standard consecrations between 1923 and 1938.

Other main sources which show some figures and details of consecrations of standards are:

1) The Verordnungsbatt der Obersten SA-Führung (1931-1943).
2) Dokumente der Zeitgeschichte, Dresler/Hartmann (published in 1938).
3) Reichstagung in Nürnberg (1933-1938) (six volumes).
5) Der Schulungsbrief, 8/9 Folge, 1938 (it is important to note that the article in this periodical dealing with figures relating to consecrations of standards was also written by Dr. Hans Volz).
6) Various original documents held in the Bundesarchiv and in private collections.

The most complete single source detailing figures of consecrations of standards between 1923-1938 was the Daten der Geschichte der NSDAP where Dr. Hans Volz has accurately detailed all the historical dates, facts and figures of the NSDAP, thus, his figures have been used as a “control” against figures from other works. Where figures from the other publications agree or disagree with the Daten der Geschichte der NSDAP, these have also been noted at the bottom of each yearly breakdown.

Although it is known that various new standards were presented and consecrated after 1938 few details have been found concerning them at this time.¹

Note: Where no name or Standarte number has been entered against a number in the breakdown by years 1923-1938, it is due to insufficient information. (This is especially noticeable with SS standards as little information has thus far been found detailing the names presented and consecrated at a specific Reichsparteitag between 1933-1938.)
Where name changes to standards are known to have occurred, these have been listed. Normally where a change occurred between 1923-1938 the standard with a name change would not be rescheduled for presentation. Presumably, as the standard cloth itself was deemed to have already been consecrated, it is interesting, to note therefore that when the standard "Chiemgau," originally consecrated in 1933 had its name changed to "Dietrich Eckert," this renamed standard was rescheduled for presentation at the 1938 Reichsparteitag, possibly for reconsecration. This is possibly due to the special importance of the name "Dietrich Eckert" to National-Socialism that Hitler considered it necessary to reconsecrate this renamed standard.

### Analysis of figures relating to standards consecrated between 1923-1938.

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Total of all Standards consecrated between 1923 and 1938: 725 (according to Daten der Geschichte der NSDAP).

### "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" STANDARDS CONSECRATED BETWEEN 1923-1938

1923
1st Reichsparteitag, Marsfeld, four SA standards consecrated.
1. München
2. München II (changed to "Fritz Todt" in 1942)
3. Landshut
4. Nürnberg

(The four names are listed in the 1933 book Deutsche Uniformen Album: SA SS HJ, by Sturm Zigaretten-Fabrik Dresden-A, as having been presented in 1923.)
(Der Schulungsbrief 1938 and Dokumente der Zeitgeschichte also state four standards consecrated.)

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2 The symbolic nature of consecration would mean that when the cloth itself was consecrated the whole standard became consecrated.
1927
3rd Reichsparteitag, Nürnberg, 12 SA standards consecrated.
1. Bayreuth
2. Berlin II
3. Bochum
4. Chemnitz
5. Essen
6. Frankfurt a.M.
7. Hannover (possibly changed to "Dincklage")
8. Nordmark
9. Rhin
10. Ruhr (changed to "Victor Lutze" in 1943)
11. Wien
12. Zwickau

(The twelve names are listed in the 1933 book *Deutsche Uniformen Album: SA SS HJ*, by Sturm Zigaretten-Fabrik Dresden-A, as having been presented in 1927.)

1929
4th Reichsparteitag, Nürnberg, 24 SA standards consecrated.
According to *Daten der Geschichte der NSDAP*.
1. Ansbach
2. Braunschweig
3. Dithmarschen
4. Dresden (changed to "Helmut Seifert" in 1939)
5. Graz (changed to "Friedl Sekanek" in 1939)
6. Grenzmark
7. Hamburg (changed to "Wilhelm Boltz" in 1939)
8. Holstein
9. Kassel
10. Knickmann
11. Koburg
12. Kütemeyer (changed to Kütemeyer between 1937-39)
13. Leipzig
14. Linz
15. Magdeburg
16. Marchfeld
17. Mecklenburg
18. Oberland
19. Oldenburg
20. Pfarz
21. Pommern
22. Schleswig
23. Schleswig
24. Tannenberg

(*Der Schulungsbrief 1938* also confirms 24 SA standards consecrated. *Dokumente der Zeitgeschichte, Dresler/Hartmann, states 25 consecrated.* *Deutsche Uniformen Album: SA SS HJ*, by Sturm Zigaretten-Fabrik, Dresden-A, published in 1933 confirms the above 24 names awarded.)
Standarten-Verleihung.

Für das Jahr 1931 werden der SA folgende 28 neue Standarten verliehen:

1. Danzig
2. Schwerin
3. Potsdam
4. Kolberg
5. Altona
6. Ganz
7. Mittelsaxen
8. Ostfriesland
9. Bergisch Land
10. Bösen
11. Ostland
12. Köpischer
13. Halle

Wegen der Knappheit der zur Verfügung stehenden Mittel musste die ursprünglich vorgesehene Anzahl neuer Standarten auf die vorliegenden sechs beschränkt werden. Den Ausschlag wurde jedoch dem erheblichen Widerstand der betroffenen Verbände nicht gegeben.

Die Abnahmemeldungen sind als die Erben für das kommende Jahr zur Verleihung vorgesehen.

Adolf Hitler.

This Verordnungsblatt from October 12, 1931 details "Fehrbellin" which was also consecrated in 1936. "Königsberg," "Stralsund," "Niederlausitz" and "Starkenburg" were held over and consecrated at the 1933 Reichsparteitag.

Verordnungsblatt from October 26, 1936 also shows the “Fehrbellin” standard as having been consecrated. (See footnote to 1931 listing.)
1931
SA Treffen, Braunschweig. 24 SA standards consecrated.
According to Daten der Geschichte der NSDAP.

1. Altona
2. Anhalt
3. Bautzen (changed to "Tscharmer u. Osten" in 1943)
4. Bergisch Land
5. Danzig
6. Emil Müller
7. Fehrbellin
8. Görlitz
9. Halle
10. Harz
11. Horst Wessel
12. Koblenz
13. Kolberg
14. Kurpfalz
15. Kyffhäuser
16. Mittelweser
17. Oberschlesien
18. Ostland
19. Ostfriesland
20. Potsdam
21. Rheinhessen
22. Schweidnitz
23. Ulm
24. Wartburg

Both Der Schulungsbrief 1938 and Dokumente der Zeitgeschichte, Dresler/Hartmann, confirm 24 SA standards consecrated.
Deutsche Uniformen Album: SA SS HJ by Sturm Zigaretten-Fabrik, Dresden-A, published in 1933 also confirms 24 standards consecrated and lists them by name.

Important Note:
1 The "NSDAP Verordnungsblatt," number 4, dated October 12, 1931 lists 28 standards awarded. The SA standard "Fehrbellin" is among the listed standards, however, we know that "Fehrbellin" was awarded in 1936. There would seem to be a strong case for the "Fehrbellin" standard to have been awarded and consecrated in 1931. Is it possible that this standard was destroyed, thus, a second "Fehrbellin" standard was awarded and consecrated in 1936?
Of the four extra standards listed in this Verordnungsblatt, "Königsberg," "Stalsund," "Niederslausitz" and "Starkenburg" were all held over and consecrated at the 1933 Reichsparteitag.
The SA “Kyffhäuser” standard which was consecrated in 1931.

The SA “Osterland” standard which was consecrated in 1931.
The SA “Wartburg” standard which was consecrated in 1931.

1933
5th Reichsparteitag, Nürnberg, 126 standards consecrated.

According to Daten der Geschichte der NSDAP this total of 126 standards was made up of 118 SA standards and eight SS standards.

1. Limbach
2. Löbau
3. Leipzig II
4. Meissen
5. Floha
6. Aue i.G
7. Pirna
8. Ölsnitz
9. Marienberg
10. Döbeln
11. Altpreussen
12. Königsberg
13. Memelwacht
14. Masuren
15. Westpreussen
16. Trier
17. Nibelungen
18. Odenwald
19. Birkenfeld
20. Starkenburg
21. Dreieich
22. Kaiserslautern
23. Unterhaardt
24. Nordpfalz
25. Harz
26. Altmärk
27. Torgau
28. Naumburg
29. Krems
30. Leiben (changed to “Franz Ebner” in 1938)
31. Klagenfurt
32. Innsbruck (changed to “Josef Honomichl” in 1939)
33. Wiener-Neustadt
34. Hof
35. Regensburg
36. Ingolstadt
37. Wilhelmshaven
38. Ammerland
39. Berden
40. Harburg
41. Lüneburg
42. Unterelbe

43. Celle
44. Barel
45. Osnabrück
46. Bremen
47. Spreewald
48. Sorau N.L.
49. Niederlautitz
50. Frankfurt/Oder
51. Neumark
52. Reichenbach
53. Hirschberg
54. Breslau
55. Waldenburg
56. Herrenstadt
57. Glogau
58. Cosel O.S.
59. Oppeln
60. Brieg
61. Kiel
62. Nordfriesland
63. Ishoe
64. Segeberg
65. Stormarn
66. Lauenburg
67. Hamburg II
68. Schwerm (changed to “Wilhelm Gustloff” in 1938)
69. Lübeck
70. Hallemann
71. Hagen
72. Hermann Pantförder
73. Mühlheim-Ruhr
74. Krefeld
75. Aachen
76. Oberbergisch Land
77. Duisburg
78. Solingen
79. Rotenburg
80. Marburg
81. Westerwald
82. Dillenburg
83. Hanau
84. Oberhessen
85. Charlottenburg

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<tr>
<td>118</td>
<td>Chiemgau (changed to “Dietrich Eckart” in 1938)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SS Standards**

1. Adolf Hitler
2. München (changed to “Jürgen Schreck” in 1936)
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. 
8. 

(Der Schulungbrief 1938, Reichstagung Nürnberg 1933 and Der SA Mann, 9.9.1935 also confirm that 126 standards were consecrated at the 1933 Reichsparteitag.)

The 118 SA standards are listed in the 1933 book *Deutsche Uniformen Album: SA SS HJ*, by Sturm Zigaretten-Fabrik, Dresden-A.

The SA “Berlin-Mitte” standard consecrated in 1933.

The SA “Hof,” “Ingolstadt,” and “Regensburg” standards after being consecrated in 1933.
The SA "Henneberg" standard consecrated in 1933.

The SA "Heidecksburg" standard consecrated in 1933.
1934
6th Reichsparteitag, Nürnberg, 201 standards consecrated.
According to Daten der Geschichte der NSDAP this total of 201 standards was made up of 126 SA standards and 75 SS standards.

**SA Standards**

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**SS Standards**

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(continued)
1935

7th Reichsparteitag, Nürnberg. 104 standards consecrated.

1935 was the year the new SS-Reiterstandarte standards were introduced as well as the new NSKK and SS-Motorstandarte standards.

According to Daten der Geschichte der NSDAP this total of 104 standards was made up of 36 SA standards, 28 NSKK standards, and 40 SS standards.

SA Standards

1. Niederbayern
2. Weiden
3. Berlin-Lichtenberg
4. Siegerland
5. Vorgelberg
6. Hofgeismar
7. München-Land
8. Zweibrücken
9. Ludwigshafen/Rh.
10. Rhein-Neckar
11. Kraich-Gau
12. Saarbrücken
13. Saarlouis
14. Mansfeld
15. Wittenberg
16. Schönebeck
17. Köln
18. Blankenburg
19. Haihhau
20. Schlochau
21. Soldin
22. Grenzland-Ost
23. Labes
24. Kreuzburg
25. Löwenberg
26. Bresla-Süd
27. Trebnitz
28. Neusalz
29. Enzgau
30. Oberschladen
31. Schieritz
32. Nordhausen
33. Arnberg
34. Westfalen-Süd
35. Mittelrhein
36. (possibly never awarded—see footnote)

SS Standards

1. Charlottenburg
2. Schneidemühl
3. Saale
4. Saarbrücken
5. Hanauerland
6. Stedingen
7. Deutschland

SS-Motorstandarte Standards

1. SS-Motorstandarte 1
2. SS-Motorstandarte 2
3. SS-Motorstandarte 3
4. SS-Motorstandarte 4

NSKK Standards

1. M75
2. M74

(continued)
SS-Reiterstandarte Standards
1. SS-Reiterstandarte 1
2. SS-Reiterstandarte 2
3. SS-Reiterstandarte 3
4. SS-Reiterstandarte 4
5. SS-Reiterstandarte 5
6. SS-Reiterstandarte 6
7. SS-Reiterstandarte 7
8. SS-Reiterstandarte 8
9. SS-Reiterstandarte 9
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14. SS-Reiterstandarte 14
15. SS-Reiterstandarte 15
16. SS-Reiterstandarte 16
17. SS-Reiterstandarte 17
18. SS-Reiterstandarte 18
19. SS-Reiterstandarte 19
20. SS-Reiterstandarte 20
21. SS-Reiterstandarte 21
22. SS-Reiterstandarte 22
23. SS-Reiterstandarte 23

Footnote:
A document in the Bundesarchiv dated July 23, 1935 and sent from the "Oberste SA-Führer" to the "Adjutantur des Führers," Berlin, details the names of new SA standards to be ready for consecration at the 1935 Reichsparteitag in September. These amount to 35 (and are the 35 listed for SA standards). This leaves one SA standard short in respect of the breakdown in Daten der Geschichte der NSDAP.
A document dated July 12, 1935 and in the possession of Otto Sprock details SS standards to be ready for the 1935 Reichsparteitag.

Above and at right: The march-by of SS standards during the 1935 Party rally.
1936

8th Reichsparteitag, Nürnberg, 63 standards consecrated.

According to Daten der Geschichte der NSDAP this total of 63 standards was made up of 25 SA standards, 35 NSKK standards, and three SS standards.

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*Verordnungblatt der Obersten SA-Führung*, dated October 26, 1936, number 15, details the 25 SA standards by name.
### 1937
9th Reichsparteitag, Nürnberg, 66 standards consecrated.
This was the year the new SA-Reiter standards were introduced.
According to *Daten der Geschichte der NSDAP* this total of 66 standards was made up of 30 SA standards, 34 NSKK standards, one SS standard, and one Polizei.

**SA Standards**

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**SS Standard**

1. Oberbayern

**NSKK Standards**

1. M76
2. M58
3. M83
4. [including SA-Reiter. (See chapter 8, The SA, sub-section SA-Reiter standards for further information.)]

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### 1938
10th Reichsparteitag, Nürnberg, 93 standards consecrated.
This was the year the NSKK standard was introduced.
According to *Daten der Geschichte der NSDAP* this total of 93 standards was made up of 42 SA standards (12 from Ostmark), 21 NSKK standards, 14 SS standards, and the first 16 NSFK standards.

**SA Standards**

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</table>

**NSKK Standards**

1. Thüringer Wald
2. Westfalen-Nord
3. Roie Erde

**SS Standards**

1. Der Führer
2. Brandenburg
3. Thüringen
4. Ostmark
### NSFK Standards

1. Standarte 26
2. Standarte 66
3. Standarte 95 (awarded honor/martyr’s name: “Erwin Aichele”)  
4. Standarte 43
5. Standarte 87
6. Standarte 82
7. Standarte 75
8. Standarte 38
9. Standarte 58 (awarded honor/martyr’s name: “Arnold Schrubba”)

---

### Listing of NSKK-Standarte numbers known to have existed along with their location and the NSKK-Motorgruppe they were in between 1935 and 1945.

<table>
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<th>Standarte Number</th>
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(continued)
<p>| 46 | Hanau       | Hessen   |
| 47 | Kassel     | Hessen   |
| 48 | Marburg/Lahn | Hessen |
| 49 | Frankfurt/Main | Hessen |
| 50 | Darmstadt  | Hessen   |
| 51 | Ludwigshafen | Westmark |
| 52 | Neuwied    | Westmark |
| 53 | Karlsruhe  | Südwest  |
| 54 | Freiburg i.B. | Südwest |
| 55 | Stuttgart  | Südwest  |
| 56 | Ulm        | Südwest  |
| 57 | Göttingen  | Niedersachsen |
| 58 | Braunschweig | Niedersachsen |
| 59 | Hildesheim | Niedersachsen |
| 60 | Ulm        | Niedersachsen |
| 61 | Hannover   | Niedersachsen |
| 62 | Bremen     | Niedersachsen |
| 63 | Oldenburg  | Niedersachsen |
| 64 | Osnabrück  | Nordsee  |
| 65 | Bielefeld  | Westfalen |
| 66 | Münster    | Westfalen |
| 67 | Dortmund   | Westfalen |
| 68 | Mülheim an der Ruhr | Westfalen |
| 69 | Bochum     | Westfalen |
| 70 | Gelsenkirchen | Westfalen |
| 71 | Köln       | Nordrhein-Westfalen |
| 72 | Remscheid  | Nordrhein-Westfalen |
| 73 | Essen      | Nordrhein-Westfalen |
| 74 | Duisburg   | Nordrhein-Westfalen |
| 75 | Düsseldorf | Nordrhein-Westfalen |
| 76 | Aachen     | Nordrhein-Westfalen |
| 77 | Bayreuth   | Franken  |
| 78 | Ansbach    | Franken  |
| 79 | Schweinfurt | Franken |
| 80 | Landshut   | Bayernwald |
| 81 | Regensburg | Bayernwald |
| 82 | Amberg     | Bayernwald |
| 83 | Nürnberg   | Franken  |
| 84 | Rosenheim  | Hohenzollern |
| 85 | Lindau     | Hohenzollern |
| 86 | München    | Hohenzollern |
| 87 | Augsburg   | Hohenzollern |
| 88 | Graz       | Brig. Steiermark |
| 89 | Leoben     | Brig. Steiermark |
| 90 | Klagenfurt | Brig. Kärnten |
| 91 | Salzburg   | Alpenland |
| 92 | Innsbruck  | Brig. Tirol |
| 93 | Wien       | Wien     |
| 94 | Wien       | Wien     |
| 95 | Coburg     | Franken  |
| 96 | Krems      | Niederösterreich |
| 97 | Eisenstadt | Niederösterreich |
| 98 | St. Pölten | Niederösterreich |
| 99 | Linz       | Niederösterreich |
| 100 | Grünau     | Oberösterreich |
| 101 | Litzendorf | Oberösterreich |
| 102 | Rastenburg | Oberösterreich |
| 103 | Insterburg | Oberösterreich |
| 104 | Tilsit     | Ostpreußen |
| 105 | Thorn      | Ostpreußen |
| 106 | Bromberg   | Ostpreußen |
| 107 | Stolp      | Ostpreußen |
| 108 | Unidentified | Ostpreußen |
| 109 | Rostock    | Ostpreußen |
| 110 | Neuruppin  | Ostpreußen |
| 111 | Lübeck     | Ostpreußen |
| 112 | Posen      | Ostpreußen |
| 113 | Hohenfeld  | Ostpreußen |
| 114 | Litzmannstadt | Ostpreußen |
| 115 | Oppeln     | Ostpreußen |
| 116 | Görlitz    | Ostpreußen |
| 117 | Kattowitz  | Ostpreußen |
| 118 | Glogau     | Ostpreußen |
| 119 | Teschen    | Ostpreußen |
| 120 | Guben      | Brandenburg |
| 121 | Beuthen    | Brandenburg |
| 122 | Lissa      | Brandenburg |
| 123 | Niesen     | Brandenburg |
| 124 | Kalisch    | Brandenburg |
| 125 | Bromberg   | Brandenburg |
| 126 | Ebersbach  | Sachsen |
| 127 | Dessau     | Sachsen |
| 128 | Zwickau    | Sachsen |
| 129 | Magdeburg  | Sachsen |
| 130 | Weissenfeld | Sachsen |
| 131 | Mittweida  | Sachsen |
| 132 | Erfurt     | Sachsen |
| 133 | Posen      | Sachsen |
| 134 | Aschaffenburg | Hessen |
| 135 | Giessen    | Hessen |
| 136 | Wiesbaden  | Hessen |
| 137 | Mainz      | Westmark |
| 138 | Mannheim   | Westmark |
| 139 | Trier      | Rhein-Mosel |
| 140 | Heidelberg | Westmark |
| 141 | Heilbronn  | Westmark |
| 142 | Konstanz   | Südwest |
| 143 | Strassburg | Südwest |
| 144 | Mühlhausen | Südwest |
| 145 | Mühlhausen | Südwest |
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(continued)
The following SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards are known to have been presented between 1933-1945.

This is not a complete listing of SS standards presented. This listing has been compiled using original documentation and confirming existence from photographs.

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<thead>
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<th>Name on Standart</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Presented 1934</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brandenburg (skull box)</td>
<td>Presented 1938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlottenburg</td>
<td>Presented 1935</td>
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<td>Dresden</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Der Führer</td>
<td>Presented 1938</td>
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<td>Deutschland</td>
<td>Presented 1935</td>
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<td>Friedrich Schlegel</td>
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<td>Franz Kutschera</td>
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<td>Giessen</td>
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<td>Hans Cynanka</td>
<td>Presented 1935</td>
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<td>Holzweber</td>
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Presumably, not all the above NSFK Standarte would have been awarded a "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard, especially later Standarten formed during the war years.
<table>
<thead>
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<td>Paul Berck</td>
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<td>Rhein Hessen</td>
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23 SS-Reiterstandarte standards and 10 SS-Motorstandarte standards presented in 1935
CHAPTER • 29

"Deutschland Erwache" Standards and Parts of Standards known to have survived the War

Eagle and Wreathed Swastika Finial with Box for SA-Standarte "Ambergau"

The eagle and wreathed swastika finial with box was taken back to the U.S.A. at the end of the war. Later it was sold to the well-known collector, Dick Van Heuvelen. It is interesting to note that "Ambergau" is not in the listing of standards given to the SA between 1923 and 1938, indicating that it had been awarded post-1938.
Two side views of the SA “Ambergau” eagle and wreathed swastika with box.

Close-up detail of the eagle perched on the wreath.

Close-up photographs showing the “Bliesgau” box. Note it is complete with the fixing screw through the box.

This is one of the few unaltered or “assembled” standards in collections today. It was acquired from an American soldier by the Californian-based dealers, Stephen S. Wolfe and N. Neil Hardin, and was later sold to a private collector in the U.S.A. The standard is complete except for the lower half of the staff. This standard was not consecrated between 1923-1938 according to the SA-Verordnungsblatt. It is possible that this was one of the standards awaiting consecration at the 1939 Reichsparteitag. No details have surfaced but presumably such standards would have gone through the consecration with the “Blood Flag,” but not at the 1939 Reichsparteitag!
Eagle and Wreathed Swastika Finial with Box for SA-Standarte “Brünn”

Looking up at the eagle and swastika finial and “Bliesgau” box.

Photograph of the “Bliesgau” standard from behind. This shows the “NSDAP” designation at the rear of the box. The entire standard has survived in excellent condition.

The eagle and wreathed swastika finial with box was sold by the Hamburg based auction house “Hanseaticum Auktionshaus für Historica” in 1993. It had originally come from a collection in Southern Germany.
The city of Brünn seen in square 41 of this original map from the 1930's. Brünn was in Czechoslovakia. The SA Standard bearing this city name was consecrated after 1938.

The remains of the SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard “Celle” were found during the digging of foundations for a garage on the side of a house in March 1994. This house is on one of Celle’s most prestigious streets and had been owned by the local NSDAP leader and Mayor of Celle until 1945.

Unfortunately, when the standard was first found one of the workmen inadvertently stepped on the box resulting in its breakage. The eagle and wreathed swastika finial survived in good condition since it was protected with an oil cloth cover. The wood parts had deteriorated, as had the cloth and tassels. Although the metal screw collar of the top staff was found, no remains were found of the bottom staff section. It is possible that this was not buried with the standard.

After finding the standard, the present owner of the house sold it to an antiques dealer in Bremen. This individual contacted a militaria dealer, who in turn, informed the author of the discovery. As soon as possible the author flew to Germany to inspect the remains and subsequently purchased them. Since the purchase, the remains of the Celle standard have been accurately restored.

Is this the fate of many ‘DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE’ Standards? Possibly many are still buried throughout Germany.
The remains of the “Celle” box which were in a bad state of preservation when found, and were not enhanced by being stepped on by a workman. The restoration of this box was achieved by attaching the remains to a wooden base.

The obverse and reverse of the restored remains of SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHT” Standard “Celle.”

The restored “Celle” box.

The screw collar from the top staff section. The remains of the wooden staff are still visible. Parts of this staff are also still in the eagle and wreathed swastika finial’s mounting collar.
The SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” “Guben” eagle and swastika finial along with the box. Notice that the fixing screw that runs through the box into the finial collar and staff is missing, also the finial seems much cleaner overall in comparison to the box. It's not known if this standard was assembled from original parts after the war. The two photographs were taken after the standard had been sold to U.S.A. collector Pete Pletinck.

This surviving “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard was the first known piece to be photographed in a post war militaria magazine. The illustrated article appeared in issue number 4 of Volume 2 of Militaria, published by Deeter/Odegard in 1970 when the standard was in the collection of Fred Ramm, a collector from the U.S.A. The above photograph was taken in October 1970.
In 1993 the Hamburg-based auction house “Hanseatisches Auktionshaus für Historica” sold the SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard “Hohenbaden” which had come from a collection in Southern Germany. Although probably assembled from parts, the eagle and wreathed swastika finial along with box belonged together as probably did the nickle-silver staff collars and foot (the wood of the staff was a post-war fabrication as was the crosspole). The cloth and tassels were original but replacements in mint condition. It is possible, due to the condition of the metalwork, that it had suffered some heat damage in the past, and possibly the wooden staff, etc., had been damaged necessitating their replacement.
The surviving box of SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard “Hohenbaden.”

The “Hohenbaden” standard awaits consecration at the 1934 Reichsparteitage.

Eagle and Wreathed Swastika Finial with Box for SA-Standarte “Hollabrunn”

The eagle and wreathed swastika finial with box was taken back to the U.S.A. at the end of the war. It is still in a collection in the U.S.A. (1994). “Hollabrunn” is not in the listing of SA standards given between 1923-1938, indicating that it was awarded post-1938.
Eagle and Wreathed Swastika Finial with Box for SA-Standarte “Leipzig II”

This finial, box, plus standard cloth and tassels were brought home by a G.I. from Huntsville, Alabama, and kept in his service station until purchased by a collector. Its present whereabouts is unknown. “Leipzig II” is known to have been consecrated at the 1933 Reichsparteitag.

The Standard Cloth possibly from “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard “München II”

It has been noted from photographic evidence that at least the first four “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard cloths were constructed in a slightly different manner from later examples. These have a fully-embroidered roundel, on the obverse and reverse, in white silk-like material. They also have a black silk embroidered swastika instead of the later non-embroidered style. Machine-stitched to the swastika is fine silver (with high silver content) braid which has a slight cross pattern. This is different from the later braid which has lines running in the direction of the braid. The last major difference is that the swastika edging is also in a fine silver wire, hand-sewn rather than the typical black “Russia braid” on later examples.

It is not known if other early “Kampfzeit” standards had this style of cloth, but it is suspected that this construction method was changed after the first four standards were manufactured. It could be that Hitler did not approve of this form of construction and, thus, moved to another flag maker rather than continue to use “Kunststickeri M. Auer” run by Georg and Maria Hagl. Or possibly, this labor intensive construction method made the cost per unit too high.

This surviving cloth in a well-known U.S.A. collection, merits further conjecture. It was originally discovered in the Landshut area, close to Munich, and brought back to the U.S.A. after the war. It is obviously not from the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard “Landshut” since this standard, along with “Nurnberg” and “München,” had earned the award of the special “MARSFELD/MUENCHEN” badge. The “München II” standard had been
Reverse of the standard cloth with "embroidered roundel."

Note the detail of the embroidered roundel and swastika, as well as the cross-pattern braid and silver roundel edging.

This 1926 photo of the "München" standard shows a shedding of the embroidery on the white roundel.
confiscated by the police and was not returned to the National Socialists until 1933, and thus, did not receive the special badge. Could this cloth have come from the "München II" standard?

It is interesting to note that the condition of this cloth is excellent with little wear to the leather pole patch. Could this be further evidence in favor of it being from the "München II" standard which had been stored by the police until 1933, and then kept in the Brown House for most if it’s existence until 1945?

Close-up of the high quality embroidery and the red leather patch. Also note the excellent condition of the cloth.

The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard Cloth of Straubing
(For details on the Straubing cloth, see Chapter 8, pages 64-69.)

Obverse.

Reverse.
Note the fine silver wire, hand-embroidery on both the obverse and reverse of the Straubing cloth.

The assembled SA “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard based on the Standard “Trier”

This Standard was assembled utilizing original and postwar fabricated parts in the 1970’s. The eagle and swastika finial is original as is the standard cloth. The box, tassels and woodwork were postwar fabricated.

The box is probably the finest quality replica made. It took over a year for this box to be constructed from the time the original working drawings were initiated. Most of the time was taken finding a firm that was capable of producing the finished piece to original specification.

When one checks the box in comparison to the original being carried subtle differences in the lettering and spacings are evident. The “Trier” box and a “Deutschland” box were produced at the same time to complete “assembled” standards. The “Trier” standard was completed in the late 1970’s. It is believed to now be in a private collection in the U.S.A.
The “Würzburg” finial and box was brought to Ohio in the U.S.A. by a veteran in 1945. It was left in his basement until 1994 at which time it was offered to a local antiques dealer. Darrell Williams (the well-known SS collector) heard about the piece and subsequently purchased it. The “Würzburg” finial box still resides in the U.S.A. although it has been sold to another collector.

A rare example of the SA-Reiter standard cloth, this cloth was brought back to the U.S.A. in 1945 by Albert Wendell of Austin, Minnesota. Wendell sold it to “SS” collector Darrell Williams in the late 1980s. This cloth is now in the Ulric of England collection.
The condition overall is very good. The sleeve of the cloth which was originally nailed to the staff, however, has been cut off. Such an action was probably initiated by Wendell in haste to claim his “souvenir.” Several attempts to contact Wendell by Ulric of England have proven fruitless. According to Darrell Williams, Wendell was in his late 80s when he purchased the cloth from him.

The SS Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler Standard
(2nd version)

Possibly the most famous of all standards is the one belonging to the Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler which was presented to them in Metz on September 9, 1940 by Reichsführer-SS Heinrich Himmler (at which time the original “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard presented in 1933 was handed over to the replacement battalion for safe-keeping in their barracks at Berlin-Lichterfelde). This new and unique standard was designed by Professor Carl Diebitsch and was based on his previous design for the Führerstandarte. The magnificent cloth had four identical golden eagles and swastikas on red silk. In the center was a static swastika within a white roundel. The entire fringe was gold bullion wire, as were the tassels.

The story of this standard is well-known and presented in many books. In 1945, during the assault on Berlin by the Russian Army, hundreds of flags and standards were captured including the 2nd version standard of the L.A.H. This standard, along with many others of the German Army, were carried at the Russian victory parade held in June 1945. However, the unique cloth had disappeared and the standard was paraded without it.

Many historians have hazarded a guess as to what happened to this cloth, and a romanticized story that circulated was that in the chaos of Berlin in May 1945 a SS officer from L.A.H. retrieved the standard to prevent it from falling into Russian hands. Under the circumstances it was deemed too risky and he took the cloth instead. The story goes on that the SS officer and the cloth were never seen again and the standard without the cloth fell into Russian hands.

During the 1960s and early 1970s many believed that after the victory parade all the flags and standards, including the standard of the L.A.H., were destroyed by the Russians. Gradually it was realized that this destruction did not take place and in the 1970s and 1980s articles appeared in magazines and books with photographs of the standards beautifully displayed in the Central Museum of Soviet Armed Forces in Moscow. The center of the display was the huge bronze eagle/swastika from the Reichs Chancellery and the L.A.H. standard placed across the wreathed swastika.

But what had happened to the cloth? The truth of its whereabouts emerged in 1990 when the well-known American researcher, George Peterson, began making numerous trips to East Bloc countries and in particular Russia. With the opening up of the East Peterson was one of the first to visit many museums and archives, and obtain permission to view non-displayed items. It was on such a visit to the Central Museum of Soviet Armed Forces in Moscow that he found the unique cloth belonging to the standard of the Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler.

It is ironic that this “missing” cloth had simply been in an unmarked crate within the same walls that had held the standard for all those years. When all the captured flags and standards had been collected together, at some point the cloth belonging to the standard of the L.A.H. came loose and was separated. The Russians, not having a specialized knowledge about Nazi flags and standards, probably did not realize that the two pieces belonged together. The clothless standard was carried in the Russian victory parade. The cloth was crated up

The standard of Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler is paraded in June 1945 at the Soviet Victory Parade. Amazingly, this is the only “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” style standard that the Russians are known to have captured. The majority of the others were German Army standards.
with other items and stored away. Incredibly it has taken half a century for it to be discovered.

The display of German Army standards within the Central Museum of Soviet Armed Forces. At the center on the floor is the huge bronze eagle and swastika from the Reichs Chancellery and across the wreathed swastika is the standard of Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler.

In the late 1980s the display was changed and all the standards, including that of the Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler, were placed under glass.
The bronze Reichs Chancellery eagle and swastika in front of the glass display cases. The standard of Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler can be seen in the case above the swastika of the Chancellery eagle.

The LAH Standard as it is seen today (1993). The condition is excellent with almost 100% of the gold and silver finish remaining.

Detail view of the lower staff section showing the five dedication rings. All are 1-1/2mm thick, the top two are 3cm wide and the lower three are 1-1/2cm wide.
Close-up of the eagle and wreathed swastika finial resting on a bed of army regimental standards.

Close-up of the "Adolf Hitler" box. It would appear that the box is manufactured from brass and painted black in the inset, rather than being plated with gold.

The obverse of the Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler standard cloth. The quality is magnificent with gold bullion wire handwork on red silk. The black border is formed into a sleeve at the top to allow the golden-finished crosspole to pass through. The tassels are still missing, and are possibly also stored somewhere within the museum. The white tag seen by the bottom eagle and swastika is a property tag sewn on by the museum. The overall condition of the cloth is excellent with no major damage and no tarnishing to the gold bullion.
The reverse of the Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler standard cloth. This was another historians' great debate..."What was the design on the reverse of the cloth?" Interestingly a reproduction of this cloth was encountered by the author showing genuine age. It obviously had been made during the 1960s or early 1970s and the manufacturer, not knowing the design on the reverse, had used the Iron Cross design that Professor Carl Diebitsch utilized on the LAH guidon. The reverse is identical to the obverse, apart from the black leather rectangle which is machine-sewn to the top center to prevent wear to the silk when rubbing against the staff.

Detail of the black leather rectangle on the top center of the cloth reverse to protect the silk from wear. The SA and SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard cloths had a red leather rectangle sewn at this position to protect the silk.

This close-up photograph shows the quality of workmanship on this cloth. Various shades of gold bullion wire and colored cottons have been used. The black silk swastika has silver aluminum braid to highlight the design, a feature also employed on the SA/SS type "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard cloths. The gold oakleaf wreath has a three-dimensional look to it. (Photograph is of the reverse of the cloth.)
This standard was brought back to the U.S.A. by a veteran in 1945. It is complete with the exception of its bottom staff section. It has recently been sold (1996) by the well-known California-based dealers, Wolfe/Harden, and is now in a European collection.
Eagle and Wreathed Swastika Finial with Box for SS-Standarte "Nordböhmnen"

Robert McCarthy poses with his "assembled" standard. The eagle and swastika finial, along with "Nordböhmnen" box, belong together. The cloth is original and has been "assembled" with the finial and box for the photograph. Note the loss of some fringe to the standard cloth.

This eagle and wreathed swastika finial with box was taken to the U.S.A. at the end of the war. Later, it was sold to the well-known collector, Robert McCarthy. Recently it has been sold again. It now resides in a private collection on the east coast of the U.S.A.

Eagle and Wreathed Swastika Finial with Box for SS-Standarte "Württemberg"

This eagle and wreathed swastika finial with box was apparently looted by a Frenchman in 1945 and taken back to France. It remained in his possession until the early 1990s when it was purchased by the well-known German dealer, Andreas Thies.
The assembled SS "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard based on the Standard "Deutschland"

Close-up photographs of the replica "Deutschland" box.

This standard was assembled utilizing original and postwar fabricated parts in the 1970s. The eagle and swastika finial is original as is the standard cloth and tassels. The box and woodwork were postwar fabricated. The "Deutschland" box was made by the same firm as the "Trier" box and is the finest quality replica made, as was the box of "Trier." It took over a year for the box to be fabricated from the time the original working drawings were initiated.
Surviving cloth from the standard of SS-Motorstandarte-1 which was consecrated at the 1935 Reichsparteitag. At the end of the war this cloth was removed from its standard and taken to Kansas, U.S.A. by a U.S. soldier. Through an intermediary it was purchased by Mr. Patt Anthony in the late 1970s or early 1980s and sold again to the firm of Wolfe/Hardin. The cloth was sold once again and now resides in England. It has survived in very good to excellent condition.

Surviving cloth from the standard of M62. Motorstandarte 62 was based in Bremen as part of Motorgruppe Nordsee. The cloth is in excellent condition and has survived together with its original eagle and wreathed swastika finial.
The eagle and wreathed swastika finial that belonged to the NSKK standard M62.

Surviving cloth from the standard of M81. Motorstandarte M81 was based at Regensburg and was a part of Motorgruppe Bayernwald. The M81 standard was one of the original 28 NSKK standards presented at the 1935 Reichsparteitag. The photograph above shows the M81 standard at the 1935 Reichsparteitag awaiting consecration with the “Blood Flag.” The cloth has some oxidation to the silver wire work, otherwise it is in excellent condition.
The Intriguing Case of NSKK Standard Cloth M91 Bearing the Martyr’s Name “Alfred Janko”

On April 4, 1982 the Telegraph Sunday Magazine ran an article entitled The Personal Hoard Hitler Left Behind, written by Ian Ball. A similar article was featured in Penthouse Magazine in September of 1982. In 1984 the well-known American dagger dealer and specialist book publisher, Thomas Johnson, published World War II German War booty, Volume 2. This book also detailed a similar but more extensive article under the heading The Treasure Trove of the Decade. All of these articles detailed a hitherto unknown hoard of unique items found by an American sergeant (who wished to remain anonymous) who supposedly removed them from the Führerbau on the Königsplatz in Munich.

The Führerbau as it looked in May 1945, still complete with the bronze eagles sitting on wreathed swastikas (these were removed shortly afterwards). The building still retains a camouflage covering. Note the badly damaged “Brown House” behind the “Honor Temple.”

The American sergeant, calling himself Sergeant Joseph for the purposes of the article, reiterated how, in April 1945 as a Staff Sergeant with the U.S. Army’s 144th Division, he had been billeted for a time in a building adjoining the Führerbau. According to Sergeant Joseph he went into the Führerbau looking for Nazi souvenirs. Apparently, the building had already been partially looted by G.I.s. Joseph went into the basement which, according to him, was waterlogged. Once there, he found many opened crates of broken glass, much of which bore the engraved initials “A.H.” Joseph states that one crate caught his attention as it had not been opened. It was about 2 feet deep by 2 feet wide, and about 4 or 5 feet long and positioned between two doorways. Joseph determined that other G.I.s had assumed the crate contained more glass and was, therefore, left unopened. Joseph opened the crate and found a treasure of Hitler’s most personal belongings. Among the items was a fine, gold-plated 7.65mm pistol presented to Hitler by Party comrade, Max Kehl, another 7.65 pistol presented to Hitler by the Walther family on his 50th birthday, and a swastika ring of breathtaking proportions made by the leading German Jeweller, Berthold. Other items included a fine portrait painting of Hitler’s mother Klara Hitler, a special photograph album, one of a pair, commissioned to mark Mussolini’s state visit to Germany in September 1937 (Mussolini was presented with the other). Many other items were also found including large amounts of gold coins and diamonds. (Joseph said that he was forced to give the diamonds to an intimidating U.S. Army officer who had later found out about Joseph’s hoard.)

Also found in the crate was a NSKK-Motorstandarte “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” cloth bearing the Standarte patch “M91 Alfred Janko.” The Telegraph Sunday Magazine, and Penthouse Magazine state in their articles that this cloth belonged to a unit named after a Nazi “Blood Victim” killed in the Munich Putsch of 1923 and kept by Hitler as a personal tribute to him.

Ray Bily, the millionaire gun collector, purchased the group of items from the anonymous “Sgt. Joseph.” In this photograph he proudly displays the NSKK M91 “Alfred Janko” standard cloth. The martyr’s name is embroidered under the “M91” on the unit box.

Sergeant Joseph mentioned talking to one of the Führerbau caretakers about the crate. Apparently, the caretaker knew about the box that Joseph had found and spoke of Hitler’s sister or half-sister being the intended recipient. The caretaker told Joseph that the crate was to have been shipped to Argentina.

Joseph kept his hoard hidden until 1974. When looking for a possible buyer, he met with the Nevada-based gun collector, Ray Bily. Joseph was paid $10,000 for one of the golden Hitler pistols along with some other pieces, and a further $50,000 after the pieces had been authenticated.
The task of authentication fell on Dr. August Priesack. Priesack was on the “Historical Research Staff of the NSDAP Hauptarchiv” before the war and after the war was often brought in to authenticate Third Reich items. In October 1979 Priesack handed Bily a three page certificate of authenticity. Priesack stated that the items were genuine and that he was satisfied that the relics could only have come from the Führerbau.

If the details as reiterated by “Sergeant Joseph” are correct, we cannot be sure. Certainly, his supposed discussion with one of the Führerbau “caretakers” seems very suspect along with the supposed “caretaker’s” remarkable knowledge of this crate and the fact that it was to have been sent to Argentina on behalf of Hitler’s sister or half-sister. More than likely, such details were a veteran’s embellishment of the truth to make it more exciting.

It would seem that this crate of treasures had indeed come from the basement of the Führerbau. Both the Verwaltungsbau and the Führerbau were used for the safe-keeping of Party records and precious Party artifacts, and both had been looted numerous times by American G.I.s between March and June 1945.

It is doubtful that Hitler was holding the “M91 Alfred Janko DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” cloth as a personal tribute to Janko and it is more than possible that the cloth was not found in the crate with the other artifacts, as various complete “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards were held in the two buildings for safe-keeping. More possibly the “M91” cloth was removed from one of these.

After some research it was found that Alfred Janko was not a “Blood Victim” from the Munich Putsch of 1923. However, he was a martyr of the movement and a member of the NSKK who died on July 27, 1934 during the so-called 2nd Putsch which took place in Austria.

On June 14, 1945 the “Monuments Fine Arts and Archives Service” of the American armed forces obtained authorization to use the Verwaltungsbau and Führerbau as a Munich collecting point for the repatriation of art treasures removed from occupied countries. At this time the troops billeted in the buildings (179th Infantry Regiment, 45th Division) were removed, and a level of high security was instituted in readiness for the art treasures that would be stored there. When G2 and the “MFA & AS” cleared the buildings in June 1945 they found most of the NSDAP records intact along with many artifacts still stored in the basement, miraculously escaping the eyes of many looters.

*World War II German War Booty*, Volume 2, by Johnson also details various “treasures” sent back to America by a Sergeant Ralph Anderson. Anderson was with the 232nd Infantry Regiment, 42nd (Rainbow) Division. This division was one of the first to enter the Führerbau. Interestingly, one of the pieces sent back to America by Anderson was a NSKK Motorstandarte eagle and swastika finial. We will never know if this finial and the “M91” standard cloth were originally from the same standard.

This particular cloth was from the standard of Motorstandarte 92 which was located at Innsbruck. It was in mint condition except for folds from being stored in a suitcase for over 50 years. In the suitcase were various other souvenirs looted from the Führerbau, including a set of "center-hanging" type tassels and two photographs of American G.I.s outside the Führerbau holding and wearing various souvenirs. One item held was a "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard for "Troppau" (a town in Sudetenland), the condition of which indicated it had not been awarded and was perhaps stored at the Führerbau with other standards awaiting delegations from the various Standarten for consecration with the Blood Flag. Close examination shows that the original cloth was missing (perhaps looted earlier) and a NSKK cloth affixed for the photograph. This NSKK cloth was for Motorstandarte 202 which was for the town of Jęgendorf, also located in the Sudetenland. Just how many standards were held at the Führerbau at the end of the war is unknown. Presumably, the M202 cloth is awaiting discovery somewhere in the U.S.A., and it is possible others with a similar story will surface in the years to come.

At the "SHOW OF SHOWS" militaria show held in Louisville, Kentucky at the end of February and beginning of March 1997, the author was introduced to Dallas-based collector, David Cook. David had recently acquired a NSKK "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard, and as we talked an interesting story unfolded. Apparently, the cloth had been acquired from an American veteran of World War II who had removed it from the Führerbau in 1945. The author's thoughts immediately harped back to the intriguing story of the "Alfred Janko" M91 cloth which had also been found in the Führerbau.
Surviving cloth from the M95 standard. Motorstandarte 95 was based in Coburg and part of Motorgruppe Franken. The cloth is in excellent condition but has had all its brass rings removed.

A close-up of the M95 Motorstandarte patch (both sides.) Of interest on this standard cloth is the embroidery work to the work “DEUTSCHLAND.” Note how the last three letters run slightly out of line, up towards the Standarte patch.
NSKK Sturmbann (Company Pennant) for the 13th Motorsturm (Motor Company) of Motorstandarte M95. These Sturmbann were consecrated by being touched by the “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard of their Standarte (in this case M95). Note the additional company patch 13/M77. Such an additional patch was put on when a company was moved from one Standarte to another.

A close-up of the NSKK Sturmbann patch. It is in white chain stitch on blue with silver edge piping. These Sturmbann were double-sided.

NSKK “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard Cloth M96

Surviving cloth from the M96 standard. Motorstandarte 96 was based at Krems and was a part of Motorgruppe Niederdonau. The cloth has survived in very good condition.

NSKK “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard Cloth M100

Surviving cloth from the M100 standard. Motorstandarte 100 was based at Gmunden and was a part of Motorgruppe Oberdonau. The cloth has survived in excellent condition.
Surviving cloth from the Standard M188. Motorstandarte 188 was based in Graz and was a part of Motorbrigade Steiermark. The cloth survives in excellent condition and recently surfaced in the USA (1994). It has recently been sold to a dealer in England.

A close-up of the M188 Standarte patch.

The NSKK eagle and swastika diamond.
Surviving cloth from the M193 standard. Motorstandarte 193 was based in Vienna and was a part of Motorgruppe Vienna. The cloth survives in close to mint condition and is complete with all its brass rings. It is most probable that this Vienna-based Standarte was awarded its standard after 1938. This cloth was taken back to the USA in 1945 by an American soldier. It was sold in the early 1980's to an English collector.
Illustrated above is an extremely rare example of a complete NSFK standard for Standarte 95 and bearing the honor name of “Erwin Aichele.” The cloth has the beautiful multi-tone winged man device, hand-embroidered in the center. The lettering is hand-embroidered in silver-aluminum wire. Note also the NSFK tassel which has silver aluminum wire worked into it, presumably to match with the wire lettering. The cord and tassel fringe are in the usual red/white/black.

A “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard eagle and wreathed swastika finial top. This piece was sold through a Munich auction house in 1990. Apparently it had been discovered by workers while work was in progress on a section of the Munich U-Bahn (underground train system). This top was purported to have belonged to the SS Standard “Deutschland” as the digging took place not far from the old Regiment “Deutschland” barracks. It was probably commonplace after 1945 for building rubble and a variety of other debris (such as this broken standard top) to be bulldozed into craters to clear the city for rebuilding. In the final analysis, however, this finial could have come from a number of SA or SS standards.

Of the few “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards, complete and in parts, known to have survived the war, not all have survived in good condition. Such pieces have survived in poor condition but still have a historical interest to collectors and researchers alike.

It should be remembered that the standard cloth, no matter what condition it has survived in, was held by Hitler himself and has been touched by the “Blood Flag.” For these reasons alone a cloth has to be considered an important artifact for anyone interested in the Third Reich period, and National Socialism in particular.
"DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard cloth. This example was found by a US army NCO with the 141st Infantry Regiment/9th Division when he was stationed in Willingen, Germany. The cloth was retrieved from a slate mine which had been used for storage by the German authorities during the closing stages of 1945. The cloth was kept in the garage of the U.S. NCO's house until 1991 when it was sold to US collector, Robert J. Boward. The cloth has lost all of its red and white fringe and some of its black fringe. It was obviously partially vandalized at some point since 1945.

"DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard eagle and wreathed swastika finial. This piece was found in 1991 in North Germany. When found, it had apparently been hidden since the war under floorboards of a house. The finial had the swastika missing and the rear tail feathers of the eagle had been bent in an upright position, presumably to allow the finial to fit into a confined space. Since this time a new swastika has been fabricated and fitted as the original.
The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard Cloths from the "STÁTNÍ-FILM" Prag, Czechoslovakia

For nearly twenty years small amounts of Third Reich period items have been coming out of Czechoslovakia and Hungary, as well as from other former East Bloc countries.

In 1990 a small quantity of "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard cloths found their way into the hands of dealers from Czechoslovakia. These were sold and are now in collections as far apart as England, South Africa and the United States.

An example of one of the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard cloths originally from the Czechoslovakian "STÁTNÍ-FILM" company. Note the markings, typical on all the cloths from this source.

The author has observed six of these cloths from the "STÁTNÍ-FILM." The condition varies from very good to excellent condition, and very poor with faults (normally some loss of fringe, discoloration, etc.). One example in very bad condition, which ended up in the United States, unfortunately was restored using a modern red silk and the original letters were carefully cut out and sewn to this new silk along with the other components. All of the cloths encountered bear similar markings which consist of "CS.STÁTNÍ FILM" within a box, "STÁTNÍ-FILM" without a box in pseudo capital italics, and a four digit number (all those encountered so far have begun with "62...") This is obviously a stock number for the item. Lastly, the cloths bear the number "54" which may be a date stamp for 1954 perhaps showing the year an inventory took place. All of these markings are located on the reverse of the cloth on the top left-hand corner.

It is unknown how these cloths came into the hands of the Czechoslovakian "STÁTNÍ-FILM" company. What, of course, is also unknown at this time is if the company had or has the standards which these cloths are from. Hopefully, time and research will unearth such information.
All "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards were made to regulations laid down in 1922 when Hitler discussed in detail the proposed manufacture with Gahr and Hagl.

The metal parts produced by the firm of Gahr were of uniform high quality throughout the years of production. The wood produced components were beautifully machine-turned and hand-finished. The crosspoles have a screw feature at the acorn end to allow for removal.

The cloth is of pure silk with a water resistant finish. This silk has an inner white cloth backing, which is required when hand or machine-embroidering through silk.

A detailed photo of the lettering on a standard. Before any of the lettering was handworked to the silk, guidelines had to be penciled in. A guideline can be seen just below the bar of the "T." In this case the handworker has altered the style of the "T" bar slightly which has left the guideline visible. Guidelines are also slightly visible at the base of the "U" and the "R." These guidelines have been observed in black and also in white.

An example of the SA-Reiter cloth showing the interior. Note the white cloth backing material with the hand-embroidery showing through.

The tri-color wool fringe was machine-sewn along the inner edge using cotton to keep the fringe as one joined strip to be sewn to the edge of the obverse and reverse silk panels.

An example of the SA-Reiter cloth showing the interior. Note that the fringe segments are barely visible and the continuous machined inner edge of the fringe using light red cotton.

The tri-color wool fringe exhibits the greatest amount of variation between different cloths inspected. Although the quality of the wool and the length of the fringe remains uniform, it did not seem to matter what color segment of the fringe started on the cloth. Therefore, you will see some cloths with fringe starting with red and ending with black, while others start with black and end with red.

It should be remembered that the overall color of the red silk may have changed to a slightly darker tone of red after a few years of use, or the varying conditions that the cloth may have been stored in during the post war period.
One should also remember that a standard consecrated in 1933, for example, had already been exposed to various weather conditions for five years when compared to a standard consecrated in 1938.

The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards "Horst Wessel" and "Schwarzwald" both exhibit large leather repair sections at the top center of their cloths. The "Horst Wessel" standard had been presented in 1931 and the "Schwarzwald" standard in 1933. This photograph was taken in 1938 and illustrates the hard use some standards went through.
THE 1923 PATTERN “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” CENTER-HANGING CLOTH TYPE STANDARDS OF THE SA AND SS

The 1923 Pattern Eagle and Wreathed Swastika Finial (Standartenspitze)

The standard finial is in the design of a golden eagle sitting on a large, silvered oakleaf wreath with golden bands. In the center of the wreath is a static swastika finished in black with silver framing in slight relief. The entire finial is a metal casting and is hollow to reduce weight to approximately three kilograms.

The golden eagle stands about 13cm high above the oakleaf wreath and has a wingspan of over 28cm. The wings were designed by Gahr to give the
feeling of an eagle about to take flight. Interestingly, Gahr also designed the feather arrangements on each wing with subtle differences as would be the case with a real bird.

The eagle is balanced on a large silver oakleaf wreath which is just over 30cm in diameter and 4.5cm thick. In the center of the wreath is a metal swastika. The swastika is also hollow and is carefully welded to the oakleaf wreath at the four points where the static swastika meets the wreath.

The first four SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards are known to have been manufactured with the swastika center attached to the wreath by screws at the four corners. This occasionally resulted in a unique situation, however, such as when the "Landshut" standard was inadvertently reassembled with the swastika backwards for a while during the late 1920s.

It is not known if other standards from the "Kampfzeit" period were manufactured in the same way but it is assumed that this labor intensive method of manufacture was deleted by Gahr in favor of the four welds after the first four standards were produced.

At the base of the wreath is a 1cm golden neck which forms into a tubular stem of 12.5cm. On the obverse of the neck is the date "1923" and on the reverse the name "Otto Gahr." It is most probable that the 1923 date was placed on the finial as a commemoration of when the first four standards were consecrated, since they were produced in late 1922.

The silvered, tubular stem of 12.5 cm has two drilled holes. This stem fits into the center hole of the metal name box, and the wooden staff fits into this stem from below. Screws in the obverse and reverse of the box go through this stem into the staff to hold the finial, box and staff together.

It is noted that these SA/SS standard finials appear to be of a uniform quality throughout with no major differences noted between the surviving examples examined by the author.

The obverse of the 1923 pattern eagle and wreathed swastika finial showing the full collar which fits inside the box. Note the two small holes where the box and finial are screwed together.

The reverse of the 1923 finial showing the full collar. Note that the two holes go through the obverse and reverse of the collar. One screw held the box to the finial from the obverse and the other from the reverse.
Obverse of the eagle and wreathed swastika finial showing a close-up view of the “1923” date engraved at the top of the collar.

Reverse view of the finial showing the “Otto Gahr” name engraved at the top of the collar.

Side views of the eagle which convey the feeling of an eagle about to take flight.
The reverse of the eagle and wreathed swastika finial showing the tail of the eagle and the nicely produced feather detail.

Comparisons between the left and right hand wings show minor variations in the feather arrangement. Such variations are typical of a real bird which illustrates the thought and detail put into this “sculpture” by Gahr.

This photo shows one of the four corners where the swastika is welded to the wreath. The first four standards had swastikas that screwed to the wreath permitting removal.
The reverse side of the eagle and wreathed swastika finial. Note how the two dissecting golden bands finish half way up at the top of the wreath.

The Metal Box (Querbalken)

The hollow, metal, silvered box is 40 cm long, 11.5 cm high, and 7 cm deep and consists of an obverse section, reverse section, and center. The box is held together by 36 screws, 12 on the top, 12 on the base and 6 on each end.

The obverse and reverse has a silvered border and the central section is recessed to allow the name or device to stand out in relief. This recessed obverse and reverse section is finished in red for all SA standards and black for SS and Polizei standards. Running through the vertical center of the box is a circular hole for the elongated metal collar of the eagle and wreathed swastika finial.

Two screws hold the box, finial and staff rigid. One screw enters from the upper center of the obverse (this is, of course, the named obverse after September 1933). The second screw enters from the lower center of the reverse which bears the N.S.D.A.P. designation. Both of these screws run through the box and the elongated finial collar into the wooden staff.

At each end of the box is a metal retaining ring. The tassel clips fit onto these rings.

The only standard box different from the above description is that of the second standard awarded to the Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler, which was finished in gold with black recesses instead of silver.

1 See chapter 17, "Regulations and orders governing "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards, sub-section (di)."
The SA "Ambergau" box showing the slightly unfastened screw on the N.S.D.A.P. side.

The Staff (Standartenstange)

The wooden staff consists of two sections—the upper staff and the lower staff. These are connected together by a silvered, metal, two-part collar which could be screwed together or unscrewed for assembly and disassembly.

The top of the wooden staff fits through the metal box and into the metal stem of the eagle and wreathed swastika finial. The box lies on a support collar which was formed as part of the staff. Directly below this support collar are four decorative rings which are part of the staff and finished in relief.

The base of the staff has a silvered metal cup. This metal cup would fit into the pouch of the bandolier.

The machine-turned wooden staff was finished in brown for SA-Standarte and in black for SS-Standarte.
Staff lower section showing threaded female.

The silvered metal base cup that would fit into the pouch of the bandolier.

Detail of the upper and lower staff collars.

Closed.

Partially unscrewed.

Unscrewed.
The Standard Cloth (Standartentuch)

Construction and detail of this cloth is exactly the same for both the SA and SS.

The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard cloth is a fine red silk, double-sided rectangle measuring approximately 68 cm wide by 59 cm deep without fringe.

The top of the cloth forms a sleeve for the wooden crosspole to run through (this can only be achieved by removing one of the crosspole acorn end caps first). The other three sides of the cloth are fringed with strands of hand-rolled wool grouped into equal segments of black, white and red. This fringe is approximately 4.5 cm long.

Obverse of the Cloth

In the center of the red silk cloth obverse is a white silk disc with a silver braid border. On the disc is a black immobile swastika edged with silver braid or Tresse.

Across the upper portion of the cloth is the word "DEUTSCHLAND" and below the swastika disc the word "ERWACHE." Each block letter is hand-embroidered in fine white wool with a black wool border.

The obverse of the cloth showing a leg of the black swastika. Note the fine black Russian braid bordering the edges of the entire swastika and the fine silver Tresse.

Detail photo of the hand-embroidery on the cloth. Note the black edge bordering on all the letters. This style of embroidery is sometimes called "fish scale" embroidery.
Reverse of the Cloth

In the center of the red silk cloth reverse is a white silk disc with a silver braid border. On the disc is a black immobile swastika. The edging to this immobile swastika is finished in silver Tresse. The top edge of the cloth forms a sleeve for the crosspole, and has a 8cm by 3.5cm red leather patch machine-sewn to the center. This leather patch protects the silk cloth at the point where the cloth would rub against the staff.

Centered below this patch and extended across the cloth is the wording: "NAT. SOZ. DEUTSCHE ARBEITERPARTEI," and beneath the central swastika disc the wording: "STURMABTEILUNG." All of this lettering is hand-embroidered in fine white wool with a black wool border. (It is important to note that the word “STURMABTEILUNG” appeared on both SA and SS standard cloths.)

The segmented fringe shown from the reverse side. Note that the fringe, from the obverse, was in the German colors of black, white, and red, and from the reverse it runs red, white, and black.

Standard Crosspole (Standartenquerstock)

The crosspole is of polished brown wood for SA standards and stained in black and polished for SS standards. At each end of the pole is a beautifully turned acorn decoration. The tassels are looped around the recess at the base of the acorns. Each acorn decoration unscrews from the pole to allow removal of

The red leather protective patch, machined to the top center of the reverse side of the cloth on the crosspole sleeve. This protects the silk where it would rub against the wooden staff.

A close-up view of one of the unscrewed acorn decorations. Once the acorns are screwed into place it is almost impossible to tell that they are removable.
the standard cloth. The overall length of the crosspole, including the acorn decorations, is 84cm.

The Tassels (Quasten)

The “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard is completed with two tassels. These tassels have silver metal clips at each end. The tassels are clipped to retaining rings at each end of the box and then loop around the base of the wooden acorn ends of the crosspole. From the crosspole the tassels are suspended freely at each side of the standard cloth. Each tassel is approximately 90cm long and has a 5cm long metal clip at the end. The tassels are made with a central (unseen) wool core which could be in red, white, or black. Two heavy wool strands of alternating black, white, and red are twisted around this core.

The tassel is finished with wool over a wooden form. This wool is worked into a zig-zag pattern of black, white, and red which runs down to a 2cm red wool band. The tassel is finished with a fringe of wool in segments of black, white, and red. This fringe consists of hundreds of strands of hand-rolled wool. The length of the fringe measures approximately 6.5cm.
Breakdown of the NSKK 1935 Pattern "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard into its component parts

The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" SS-Reiter Standards, SS and NSKK Motorstandarte Standards, and the NSFK Standard Eagle and Wreathed Swastika Finial (Standartenspitze)

The hollow metal top of the standard consists of a golden eagle with wings outstretched to the back on a small silvered oakleaf wreath. The wreath is without golden bands and is finished entirely in silver. The wreath has silvered bands at the top and bottom of the wreath. In the center of the wreath is a small silver mobile swastika.

At the base of the wreath is a gold relief ring which funnels out to a golden sleeve which fits over the wooden staff. The funnel section is also finished in gold.

On the back of the funnel, below the tail of the eagle, is the designation:
"GAHR MÜNCHEN
1935."

A close up of the funnel and top part of the collar. Note the dedication "GAHR MÜNCHEN/1935." All of these finials carried this dedication.

(All pictures and diagrams are of artwork by Ulric.)
Rear of Finial Fixing Arrangement for SS-Reiter, SS and NSKK Motorstandarte along with NSFK type Standards

At the rear of the finial, 2cm up from the bottom of the sleeve, is a 4-1/2cm horizontal tube. This was welded to the vertical sleeve before the plated finish was applied. The horizontal wooden pole with acorn end is inserted into this tube. 1cm from the top end of the tube is a small hole where the inserted wooden pole is screwed into position. This allows for assembly and disassembly of the standard. 1cm up from the rear of the finial sleeve is a small hole. This hole allows the wooden staff to be screwed to the finial permitting assembly and disassembly of the Standard.

Obverse of the 1935 pattern eagle and wreathed swastika finial used on SS-Reiter, SS-Motorstandarte, NSKK-Motorstandarte and NSFK standards.

Back view of the 1935 pattern finial used on SS-Reiter, SS-Motorstandarte, NSKK-Motorstandarte and NSFK standards, clearly showing the fitting for the wooden horizontal pole. The cloth would butt up against the vertical collar.
The Horizontal Wooden Pole

This horizontal, wooden machine-turned pole fits through the upper silk sleeve of cloth and is held in the horizontal finial tube by means of a screw. At the other end, the wooden machine-turned acorn decoration is screwed into position.

The “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” SS-Reiter, SS and NSKK Motorstandarte and NSFK Standard Staff (Standartenstange)

The standard staff was machine-turned and hand-finished without any form of relief decoration. The staff consisted of an upper section and lower section which could be joined at the center by means of silvered metal collars which screwed together. At the foot of the lower section was a silver metal protective cup which fit in the pouch of the bandolier when carried.

The staff for SS-Reiter, SS-Motorstandarte and NSFK standards was finished in a polished black stain. The staff for NSKK-Motorstandarte standards was finished in polished brown wood color.

The NSKK Standard Cloth (NSKK Standartentuch)

The “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” NSKK-Motorstandarte standard cloth is of fine red silk, double-sided and near square measuring approximately 58cm wide and 61cm deep without fringe. It is held to the top wooden cross-pole by a sleeve of cloth which allows the crosspole to run through once the end acorn decoration has been removed. This acorn decoration is the only part of the pole visible when the standard is assembled.

The cloth is held to the brown wooden staff by the means of five brass rings. The brass rings are attached to the cloth by small red silk loops.

The NSKK Motorstandarte patch is hand-embroidered in silver wire on brown wool, and has a silver edge piping.

The cloth has a Standarten patch to the staff side. This dark brown wool patch (popular misconception is that this patch was black) loops over the top of the cloth so that both the obverse and reverse of the cloth show a mirror image of the Standarten patch. The patch is piped with a thick silver wire which also loops over the top of the cloth at the edges of the patch. In the center of the patch is a hand-embroidered Gothic “M” in silver wire and the Standarte number.

Photo showing one of the brass rings attached to the cloth by a red silk loop.
End view of the NSKK-Motorstandarte M81 cloth. This shows the sleeve on which the horizontal pole runs through. SS-Reiter and Motorstandarte cloths, as well as cloths from NSFK standards, all have this sleeve along the top section of the cloth.

Obverse of the Cloth

The obverse of the red silk cloth has a white silk disc in the center with a silver braid border. In the center of this disc is a black immobile swastika which is edged with silver Tresse. Extending across the upper section of the cloth is the wording: "NAT. SOZ. DEUTSCHE ARBEITERPARTEI" and beneath the central swastika disc is the wording: "STURMABTEILUNG." This lettering is hand-embroidered in white wool with a black wool border. On the top staff side corner is the dark brown wool Standarte patch with a thick silver wire piped border. In the center of the patch is the silver wire, hand-embroidered Gothic "M" and the number of the Motorstandarte.

Directly below the wording "STURMABTEILUNG," in the center of the red silk cloth, is a black silk diamond with fine aluminum wire piping. This diamond, including piping, measures approximately 9.5cm wide and 11cm deep. In the center of this diamond is an aluminum wire eagle on wreathed swastika superimposed over an eight spoke wheel.

The NSKK eagle/swastika diamond, which is sewn to the bottom of the cloth on the obverse side, is hand-embroidered in fine aluminum wire on black silk and has an aluminum edge piping. The top photograph shows the eagle/swastika diamond from the cloth of Motorstandarte M81, the lower photograph is that of Motorstandarte M62. Note the minor differences in the hand-embroidery, which is particularly noticeable on the head and also to the accentuated bands around the wreath which bears the swastika. Also of interest is that the diamond on the M81 cloth is sewn just above the bottom seam, whereas the M62 cloth has the diamond overlapping the seam, and has been machine-sewn across it when the two sides of the cloth were joined.
This eagle/swastika diamond from Motorstandarte cloth M193 has no finishing to the eye using black cotton as with the diamonds from the M61 and M62 cloths. Note also that this diamond has been sewn on below the bottom seam.

Reverse of the Cloth

In the center of the red silk cloth reverse is a white silk disc with a silver Tresse border. On the disc is an immobile black swastika which is edged in silver Tresse. Extended across the upper section of the cloth is the word "DEUTSCHLAND" and below the swastika disc the word "ERWACHE." Each letter is hand-embroidered in fine white wool with a black wool border.

On the top staff side corner is a dark brown wool Standarte patch with a thick silver wire piped border. In the center of the patch is a silver wire embroidered Gothic "M" and the Motorstandarte number.

In the event that a honor or martyr's name was given to a Standarte, this would be indicated on the standard cloth. The name would appear on both sides under the Standarte number on the patch, or as an additional patch running side by side with the Standarte patch.

The cloth has a fringe on two sides consisting of strands of hand-rolled wool grouped into equal segments of black, white, and red. This fringe is approximately 4 cm long.

The SS-Motorstandarte Standard Cloth (SS-Motorstandarte Standartentuch)

The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" SS-Motorstandarte standard cloth is fine red silk, double-sided and near square measuring approximately 60 cm wide and 59 cm deep (without fringe). It hangs from the black wooden crosspole by a sleeve of cloth which allows the crosspole to run through once the end acorn decoration has been removed. This end acorn decoration is the only part of the pole visible when the standard is assembled.

The cloth is attached to the black wood staff by the means of five silvered rings. The rings are attached to the cloth by small red silk loops.
The cloth has a Standarte patch on the staff side. This black silk patch actually loops over the top of the cloth so that both the obverse and reverse of the cloth show a mirror image of the Standarte patch. It is unpipted and is machine-embroidered to the red silk cloth. In the center of the patch is a hand-embroidered Gothic “M” in fine white wool along with the Standarte number.

The Standarte patch has an embroidered, white wool Gothic “M” along with Standarte number.

The cloth has a fringe on two sides of hand-rolled wool grouped into equal segments of black, white, and red. This fringe is approximately 4 cm long.

Obverse of the Cloth

The obverse of the red silk cloth has a white silk disc in the center with a silver braid border. In the center of this disc is a black immobile swastika which is edged in silver Tresse. Extending across the upper portion of the cloth is the wording “NAT. SOZ. DEUTSCHE ARBEITERPARTEI” and underneath the central swastika disc is the wording “STURMABTEILUNG.” This lettering is hand-embroidered in fine white wool with a black wool border.

On the top staff side corner is a black silk Standarte patch. In the center of this patch is a hand-embroidered Gothic “M” and the number of the SS-Motorstandarte in fine white wool.

Reverse of the Cloth

In the center of the red silk cloth reverse is a white silk disc with a silver braid border. On the disc is an immobile swastika which is edged in silver Tresse. Extended across the upper section of the cloth is the word “DEUTSCHLAND” and below the swastika disc the word “ERWACHE.” Each letter is hand-embroidered in fine wool with a black wool border.

On the top of the staff side corner is a black silk Standarte patch. In the center of this patch is a hand-embroidered Gothic “M” and the number of the SS-Motorstandarte in fine white wool.
The SS-Reiter Standard Cloth (SS-Reiter Standartentuch)

The “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” SS-Reiter standard cloth is a fine red silk, double-sided and near square measuring approximately 60 cm wide and 59 cm deep (without fringe). It is suspended from the black wooden crosspole by a sleeve of cloth which allows the crosspole to run through once the acorn decoration has been removed. This end acorn decoration is the only part of the pole visible when the Standarte is assembled. The cloth is held to the black wood staff by means of five silvered rings. The rings are attached to the cloth by small red silk loops.

The cloth has a Standarte patch at the staff side. This fine black silk patch loops over the top of the cloth so that both the obverse and reverse of the cloth show a narrow image of the Standarte patch. It is unpiped and is machine-embroidered to the red silk cloth. In the center of the patch is a hand-embroidered pair of crossed lances in fine white wool along with the Standarte number.

The cloth has a fringe on two sides of hand-rolled wool grouped into equal segments of black, white, and red. This fringe is approximately 4 cm long.

Obverse of the Cloth

The obverse of the red silk cloth has a white disc in the center with silver braid border. In the center of this disc is a black immobile swastika which is edged in silver Tresse. Extending across the upper section of the cloth is the wording “NAT. SOZ. DEUTSCHE ARBEITERPARTEI” and underneath the central swastika disc is the wording “STURMBABTEILUNG.” This lettering is hand-embroidered in fine white wool with a black wool border.

On the top staff side corner is a black silk Standarte patch. In the center of this patch are hand-embroidered crossed lances and the number of the SS-Reiterstandarte in fine white wool.

Reverse of the Cloth

In the center of the red silk cloth reverse is a white silk disc with a silver braid border. On the disc is an immobile swastika which is edged in silver Tresse.

Extending across the upper section of the cloth is the word “DEUTSCHLAND” and below the swastika disc the word “ERWACHE.” Each letter is hand-embroidered in fine white wool with a fine black wool border.

On the top of the staff side corner is a black silk Standarte patch. In the center of this patch are hand-embroidered crossed lances and the number of the SS-Reiterstandarte number in fine white wool.

The NSFK Standard Cloth (NSFK Standartentuch)

The NSFK standard cloth is red silk, double-sided, and square measuring approximately 64 cm wide and 64 cm deep (without fringe). It is suspended from the top black wooden crosspole by a sleeve of cloth which allows the crosspole to run through once the end acorn decoration has been removed. This acorn decoration is the only part of the pole visible when the Standarte is assembled. The cloth is attached to the black wood staff by means of five silvered rings. The rings are attached to the cloth by small red silk loops.

In the event that a honor or martyr’s name is given to a Standarte, this would be shown on the standard cloth. The name would appear on both sides of the cloth and would be hand-embroidered directly to the red silk cloth in silver wire under the Standarte number.

The cloth has fringe on two sides of hand-rolled wool grouped into equal segments of black, white, and red. This fringe is approximately 4 cm long.

Obverse of the Cloth

The obverse of the red silk cloth has a silk/cotton hand-embroidered, multi-tone winged man with swastika. The man is embroidered in tones of flesh. The face is finished with light brown hair and eyebrows, and with blue eyes. The man’s arms are fully outstretched and his hands are holding the wings. The wings are embroidered in tones of white and greys with black dividing lines. Superimposed over the lower body and legs is a mobile swastika embroidered in black with a thin white border and black edge line.

Above the winged man is hand-embroidered silver, wire wording “NSFliegerkorps” in Gothic script. Below the winged man is the hand-embroidered silver wire word “Standarte” and the Standarte number.
The number 95 from the NSFK Standarte 95 cloth. It is hand-embroidered in aluminum wire and is identical on both sides of the cloth.

The SS-Reiter, SS and NSKK Motorstandarte Standard Tassel

The tassel for these standards consists of one long length of tassel cord which wraps around the funnel of the eagle and wreathed swastika finial with a simple knot. From the finial it is suspended across and down to the wooden acorn decoration of the horizontal pole. Again, it is looped and hangs freely at the end of the cloth.

The tassel is made with of a central (unseen) wool core which could be in black, white or red. To this core two heavy wool strands of alternating black, white and red are entwined.

The tassel is finished at the bottom with wool over a wooden form. This wool is worked into a zig-zag of black, white and red which runs down to a 2cm red wool band. The tassel is finished with a fringe of wool formed into segments of black, white and red. This fringe consists of hundreds of strands of hand-rolled wool. The depth of the fringe measures approximately 6.5cm.

The NSFK Standard Tassel

The tassel for these standards consists of one length of tassel cord which wraps around the funnel of the eagle and wreathed swastika finial with a simple knot. From the finial it is suspended across and down to the wooden acorn decoration of the horizontal pole. Again, it is looped and hangs freely at the end of the cloth.

The tassel is made of a central (unseen) wool core which could be in black, white or red. To this core two heavy wool strands of alternating black, white and red are entwined.

The tassel is finished at the bottom with zig-zag black wool, silver aluminum wire and red wool over a wooden form. These zig-zags run down to a 2cm band of alternating black wool, silver aluminum wire and red wool (the...
zig-zags on the band alternate in the opposite direction, i.e., horizontally rather than vertically). The tassel is finished with a fringe of wool formed into segments of black, white and red. This fringe consists of hundreds of strands of hand-rolled wool. The depth of the fringe measures approximately 6.5cm.

**Breakdown of the SA-Reiter 1935 pattern “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard into its component parts**

The **“DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” SA-Reiter Standard Eagle and Wreathed Swastika Finial (SA-Reiter Standartenspitze)**

The hollow metal finial of the standard consists of a golden eagle with wings outstretched to the back on a small silvered oakleaf wreath. The wreath has no golden bands and is finished entirely in silver. It does have silvered bands at the top and bottom of the wreath. In the center of the wreath is a small silver mobile swastika.

At the base of the wreath is a golden relief ring which funnels out to the silvered sleeve which fits over the wooden staff. This funnel section is also finished in gold.

At the back of the funnel, below the tail of the eagle, is the designation: GAHR MÜNCHEN 1935.

**Rear of Finial fixing arrangement for SA-Reiter.**

On the rear of the finial at the base of the sleeve is a hollowed metal square with a relief, rounded cap bearing a screw hole. Further up the sleeve at a space of approximately 4.5cm is another hollowed metal square. Inserted into these two hollowed squares is the silvered metal, horizontal fixing support for the cloth. Centered between the space of the two squares is a small hole drilled through the sleeve. A countersunk screw fastens the finial to the wooden upper staff section.

**The horizontal, silvered metal fixing support for the Cloth**

This horizontal, silvered metal fixing support consists of a horizontal metal bar with four clips (these clips are clipped onto rings mounted at the top of the cloth); an additional metal bar is set at an angle above this horizontal bar which helps support the weight of the cloth. At the end of these two bars are two vertical metal squares which fit into the two hollow metal squares mounted to the finial sleeve. The bottom vertical metal square has a small hole drilled through it allowing a screw to hold it in position.

**The “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” SA-Reiter Standard Staff (SA-Reiter-Standartenstange)**

The standard staff was machine-turned and hand-finished without any form of relief decoration. It consists of an upper section and lower section which can be assembled or dis-assembled by screwing or unscrewing the silvered metal joining collars. The upper section of the staff is much shorter than the lower section and once the cloth was nailed in position no wood can be seen above or below the cloth where it wrapped around the staff. At the base of the lower staff section is a silvered metal protective cup which would be held in the pouch of the bandolier when carried.

The staff for SA-Reiter standards was finished in a polished, brown wood color.
This photograph illustrates the short upper staff section of the SA-Reiter "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard. The cloth is nailed around the upper staff at the point where the finial neck meets the staff and is also nailed just above the upper staff, nickel-silver metal collar.

At right is shown the SA-Reiter finial (with longer collar) and the SS-Reiter, SS-Motorstandarte, NSKK-Motorstandarte, and NSFK finial. Although the eagle and wreathed swastika are identical, the collar is completely different in length and color (the SA-Reiter is silvered while the others are gold), and most noticeable are the reverse horizontal pole fittings.
The SA-Reiter Standard Cloth (SA-Reiter Standartentuch)

The SA-Reiter "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard cloth is fine red silk, double sided, and near square measuring approximately 53 cm across and 51 cm deep (without fringe). It is wrapped around the staff (an extra section of the double-sided red silk cloth is provided at the staff end to allow for this wrapping). Once the cloth edge is wrapped around the brown wooden staff it is held in position by approximately 30 silver-headed nails vertically and a further 6 or 7 around the top and bottom edges. These special silver standard nails are called "Standartennägel."

The cloth is edged on three sides with a fringe of hand-rolled, wool strands segmented into equal sections of black, white, and red. This fringe is approximately 4.5 cm long.
These brass rings are clipped onto the top metal horizontal support bar. When dis-assembling the standard, the cloth is unclipped from the top support bar and wrapped around the staff.

The looped-over top fringe is unique to the SA-Reiter standard cloth.

**Obverse of the Cloth.**

The top wool fringe is looped over itself and sewn into the two sides of the silk cloth which provides a fringe of approximately half the measurement of the side and bottom fringe. Sewn to the edge of the cloth top are four brass rings. These are sewn on at intervals along the top edges of the standard cloth.

![Obverse image]

**Reverse.**

The obverse of the red silk cloth has a white silk disc in the center with a silver braid border. In the center of this disc is a black immobile swastika edged in silver Tresse. Extending across the upper section of the cloth is the wording “DEUTSCHLAND” and below the swastika disc is the word “ERWACHE.” This lettering is hand-embroidered in fine white wool with a black wool border.

**Reverse of the Cloth.**

The reverse of the red silk cloth has a white silk disc in the center with a silver braid border. In the center of this disc is a black immobile swastika edged in silver Tresse. Extended across the upper section of the cloth is the word “DEUTSCHLAND” and below the swastika disc is the word “ERWACHE.” This lettering is hand-embroidered in fine white wool with a black wool border.

**The SA-Reiter Standard Streamer (Standartenbanderole).**

The SA-Reiter standard had no Standarte name or number attached to the cloth as did the SS-Reiter, NSKK, NSFK, etc.

The SA-Reiter standard utilized a streamer which wrapped around the funnel section of the eagle and wreathed swastika finial. The streamer was in one piece, simply knotted around the funnel so that in appearance two streamers were hanging freely from the finial. The streamer is made of fine red water-flecked silk. Two pieces, exactly the same, are meticulously machine-sewn to the edges. When finished, the streamers are double-sided. The double-sided silk streamer is inserted into a wooden form at each end which is hand-worked with a decorative zig-zag pattern of black wool, silver wire and red wool. At the base

![Streamers image]

The streamer's tassel ends finished in silver aluminum wire with red and black wool.
of this form is a tassel divided into equal segments of black wool, silver wire and red wool. Above, on the red silk streamer, is the embroidered word “STANDARTE” along with the unit’s relevant number. At the other end of the streamer above the form is the name awarded to the Standarte. This is beautifully embroidered in white wool thread and has an outline in black wool thread. The obverse and reverse of the streamer were a mirror image.

When the streamer was knotted around the finial funnel and allowed to hang freely, both the Standarte number and the Standarte name would appear next to each other.

“DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards seen at the famous German Reichsparteitag held annually at Nuremberg had a profound effect on other non-German National Socialist and Fascist Parties, some of whom created their own “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard “look-a-likes” by the late 1930s.

**Great Britain**

Oswald Mosley, leader of the “British Union of Fascists” had met with Hitler and Mussolini during the 1930s, and was encouraged by what he heard and saw both in Germany and Italy. He organized his “British Union of Fascists” along similar lines, and incorporated a black uniform. By 1938 he had designed a standard for the “British Union of Fascists.”

Following the Führer’s footsteps: Bearing banners similar in design to those carried in Germany’s Nazi parades, members of the British Union of Fascists march along the Embankment on the way to a rally at Dalston (E).
During 1935 there was an extensive reorganization of the B.U.F. In early 1936 Mosley changed the name from the British Union of Fascists to the British Union of Fascists and National Socialists. This new title was rarely used in full and the movement became known as the British Union.

Their standard consisted of an aluminum top and box, a black-finished wood staff and crosspoles along with a standard cloth. The finial was cast in aluminum and consisted of an oakleaf wreath with the “lightning strike” in the center and a spear head at the top. This finial was affixed to an aluminum box which bore the name “British Union” on both sides. Screws to the underside of the box was a silver metal tubular junction piece. From this two black-finished wood crosspoles could be inserted to the left and right which had nickel-silver metal end decorations. From the center of the junction piece the black-finished wood staff was inserted. Hanging from the crosspoles was the standard cloth. This cloth was of red fabric with a silver and white embroidered and applied oakleaf wreath bearing the silver “lightning strike” in the center. The background color of the inside of the wreath was blue. The cloth was finished with a blue and white segmented wool fringe.

In total sixty of these standards are known to have been produced. They were to be carried on a march held in late 1938, however, this was banned so the first time all sixty were seen was at the May Day march held on May 7, 1939 which went from the Victoria Embankment to Ridley Road, Dalston in East London. During the actual march the standards were spread throughout the column. Each detachment was headed by four standards. It was only at the beginning and end of the March that they were assembled together.

Several standards were awarded to districts which had shown special merit and these were carried on local marches such as the Islington march of July 1939. In Derby, the local “Blackshirts” displayed their standard at their bookshop.

The full sixty standards were again on display at the Earls Court Rally held on July 16, 1939. Standards were also carried at various national rallies held during the period of 1939-40. During the remainder of the war years the sixty standards were stored in a railway arch at Haggerstone. It is believed that some were stolen during this period of storage.

Mosley reformed the old British Union into the Union Movement after the war, and some of the old standards were used and carried by the Union Movement (minus the “British Union” box). A member of the Union Movement looked after the standards from the late 1960s and it appears that occasionally a standard was sold off to collectors. It is unknown at present how many were sold and who, indeed, is the present guardian of the remaining ones.

Holland

In 1931 the Dutch N.S.N.A.P. was formed. The full title for this organization was the “Nationaalsocialistische Nederlandsche Arbeiderspartij” or “National-Socialist Dutch Workers Party. The N.S.N.A.P. was one of many National Socialist or Fascist organizations forming in Holland and was a faithful replica of Hitler’s N.S.D.A.P. having its own S.A. and youth movement.

In 1933 the first organization book of the N.S.N.A.P. appeared for its S.A., entitled Dienstvoorschrift voor de S.A. der N.S.N.A.P. This book detailed the organization of the S.A. along with line drawings of its insignia, flags and standard.
Czechoslovakia

On October 1, 1933 the "Sudeten Deutsche Partei" was formed by Konrad Henlein. Its main aim was to achieve independence for the Sudeten Germans from Czechoslovakia. After the annexation of Czechoslovakia by Germany Henlein was made Gauleiter.

The "Sudeten Deutsche Partei" is known to have had at least one standard which was very similar to the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard in construction and bearing a martyr's name "Hans Knirsch." (Knirsch was a fallen "old fighter" of the Sudeten Deutsche Partei.) The standard had a silver eagle surmounting a wreath. In the center of the wreath was a silver and enameled plaque, half of which bore a black eagle. The other half had horizontal stripes of black, red, black.

Below the eagle and wreath was the silvered box with a black inset and the name "Hans Knirsch" in shallow relief finished in silver (it is unknown at this time what was on the reverse of the box). Under the box was a center hanging standard cloth suspended by two red cords attached to the box sides. The standard cloth was held to a wooden crosstoke by five cloth bands. The cloth consisted of three horizontal stripes in black, red, black on the obverse, with red being larger than the other two. In the center was a black swastika with silver edge borders on a white roundel, which in turn had silver embroidered edge wreath of oakleaves. Above the roundel, on the black stripes, the word "Sudeten" in white embroidery, and below the roundel on the lower black stripe.
the word “Deutschland” which was also in white embroidery. The cloth had a red fringe on three sides (it is unknown at the present time what was on the reverse of the cloth). It is presumed that the staff was of black-finished wood.

It is interesting to note that Hans Knirsch had been killed on December 6, 1933, shortly after the formation of the “Sudeten Deutsche Partei.” After the annexation of the Sudetenland by Germany in October 1938 the martyr’s name “Hans Knirsch” was awarded to SA-Standarte 26 of Gruppe Sudetenland on December 17, 1938.

This is the only instance known of a honor/martyr’s name being transferred by standard from one party (the “Sudeten Deutsche Partei”) to another (the N.S.D.A.P.).

Italy

Mussolini’s Blackshirts revived the old Roman tradition of a standard during the 1920s. These standards varied among the different organizations, although all followed the basic pattern of a staff with eagle finial and a standard cloth with a top crosspole which was suspended from the staff by two cloth or wire loops.

Standards of the C.I.L. COMANDO GENERALE. On these the Mussolini “M” is seen within a wreath as a part of the design of the staff. They bear the traditional eagle finials and a standard cloth suspended from a horizontal crosspole.

Rally of Fascist Youth organizations from Italian cities and towns. Note the highly decorated staff with eagle finials on the P.N.F. standards. The standard bearers are Manipolos (lieutenants in rank) wearing the 1937 pattern officer’s dagger.
Examples of Ephemera & Mementos utilizing the "Deutschland Erwache" Standard Design

The "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard became so prominent during the 1920s and 1930s that a whole host of printed matter using the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard design was produced. In particular, a standarte which was honored with the award of a standard would often utilize "their" standard on various printed items like a citation or even a menu at a special dinner.

A postcard of the 2nd version "Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler" standard that was awarded at Metz in 1940. This full-color postcard was produced by the NSDAP publishing house of Frz. Eher Nachf.G.m.b.H., and was card number 21 in a series featuring flags and standards entitled "Die Siegriefe Fahnen und Standarten der Deutschen Wehrmacht." It is interesting to note that colors on this card are not correct as the box frame and tassels are shown in silver rather than gold.

By the mid-1930s the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards had become synonymous with the annual Reichsparteitag, so that many of the official (and unofficial) postcards for the event had scenes or designs utilizing "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standards.

Even mementos and toys were produced using the design of the standard, and scaled-down replicas of the famous "Gahr" eagle and wreathed swastika standard finial were manufactured and used as prizes for various competitions.
Another presentation desk piece incorporating the Gafr designed finial. This piece still bears the original immobile swastika.

Citation for the SA-Führer course dated 1932 and produced by SA Standarte 5 “Horst Wessel.” Note the balance of this well designed citation utilizing a “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard in the center and with Sturmfahne at either side.

Music sheet of the Horst Wessel song bearing full color artwork at the top with SA men from Berlin marching with the “Berlin” “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standard and Sturmfahne behind.
Two examples of Reichsparteitage postcards, both in full-color, showing SS “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards. A large variety of such postcards were produced in full-color, black and white, and single tone.

An advertisement from the newspaper _Illustriert_'er_Beobachter_, 1935 issue number 13 for a subscription to the SS-newspaper _Das Schwarze Korps_. The advertisement uses a photograph from the 1933 Reichsparteitage with SS men holding “DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE” Standards.

A superb full-color cover to a program for a Grand Concert by the Musikkorps der Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler, obviously held after September 9, 1940 as the cover depicts the 2nd standard of the LSSAH which was awarded on that date. It is possible that the concert itself was arranged due to the award of this standard.
An example of a pamphlet given at the 1936 Westfalen-Nord Gau Treffen with a drawing of the "Knickmann" standard on the cover, and a 1936 Gau Treffen Rally Badge. It is interesting to note that both have been incorrectly portrayed with a black box instead of the SA red box of the standard.

A political leader wears the Gau Treffen Westfalen-Nord 1936 rally badge.

Rally badge given out at the 1936 Standartentag at Oldenburg.
Examples of a book cover and a poster, both incorporating the "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard in the designs.

Example of the Elastolen SA "DEUTSCHLAND ERWACHE" Standard bearer.