

Dr. Gerhard Klopfer (1905 - 1987)

Nazi Party Chancellery
Permanent Secretary (Ministerialdirektor)



Klopfer's role in the process of the "Final Solution" developed from the central position the party chancellery occupied within the governing system of National Socialism. He was one of the most influential and best informed bureaucrats of the Nazi regime. As he was both Head of Constitutional Law Section III of the Nazi Party chancellery and also Martin Bormann's deputy, he was in charge of questions relating to "Race and National Character," economic policies, cooperation with the Reich Security Main Office, and basic policies referring to the politics of occupation. In November 1942, he participated as state secretary in restricting the rights of Jews living in "mixed marriages."

Born in Schreibersdorf (Silesia), son of a farmer. High school diploma in 1923. Study of law and economics in Jena and Breslau. In 1927, he obtained his doctor of law degree. In 1931, district court judge in Düsseldorf. Joined the Nazi Party and the stormtroopers (SA) in April 1933. At the end of 1933, he became a consultant in the Prussian Ministry of Agriculture, and in 1934 at the Secret State Police Office. In April 1935, he joined the staff of Rudolf Hess, the "Führer's Deputy," and in the same year also the SS. In 1938, as Ministerial Secretary (*Ministerialrat*), he worked on the expropriation of Jewish enterprises. Fled Berlin in April 1945 and was subsequently interned. After he was released from imprisonment in 1949, the Superior Trial Court in Nuremberg declared him to be "only minimally incriminated" (*minderbelastet*). In 1952, tax accountant. In 1956, lawyer in Ulm. An investigation process by the prosecuting attorney's office in Ulm because of his participation in the Wannsee Conference was discontinued in 1962.

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