

## Dr. Alfred Meyer (1891 - 1945)

State Secretary (Staatssekretär)  
Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories



From the summer of 1941 until November 1942, Meyer, as deputy of Minister Alfred Rosenberg, was responsible for the three major departments of politics, administration and economy. In this capacity he participated in the exploitation and pillage of the occupied Soviet territories and the suppression and extermination of its inhabitants, in particular the Jewish population. Meyer had been invited to the Wannsee Conference because the genocide of the Jews on the part of the Special Units (*Einsatzgruppen*) was already underway in the region which his ministry administered. Meyer suggested at Wannsee that "certain preparatory measures" should always be carried out locally so as not to create unrest among the civilian population. In July 1942, he proposed to subject persons of "mixed blood" (*Mischlinge*) in the Soviet Union to the same measures applied to the Jews.

Born in Göttingen into a Protestant family, the son of a government councilor and building official. High school diploma in 1911. Officer cadet in 1912, company commander in 1914, and subsequently battalion commander. Prisoner of war in France in 1917. Discharged as a captain in 1920. Commercial employee and study of law, political science and political economy. Ph.D. in political science in 1922. From 1923 to 1930, legal adviser to a mining firm in Gelsenkirchen. Joined the Nazi Party (NSDAP) in 1928 and became head of a local party branch (*Ortsgruppenleiter*). Party district leader of Emscher-Lippe 1929/30, member of the Reichstag in September 1930, and in 1931 Nazi Party *Gauleiter* of Northern Westphalia. Appointed deputy governor (*Reichsstatthalter*) of Lippe and Schaumburg-Lippe in May 1933, and in 1936 Head of the Lippe state government. In 1938, Meyer became governor (*Oberpräsident*) of the Province of Westphalia and lieutenant general of the stormtroopers (SA). From November 1942 on, he was Reich Defense Commissioner of Northern Westphalia. Suicide in May 1945.

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