

The Aryan Idea and Nazi Germany

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The idea of an Aryan race is certainly not a Nazi idea. It was put forward as early as the middle of the 19th century by the French writer and diplomat Arthur de Gobineau in his work in four volumes, *Dissertation on the Inequality of the Human Races*. This work rapidly became popular among the German national romantics who made its doctrine a part of the foundation of German Nationalism. However, it was not before the work of the English-German philosopher Houston Stewart Chamberlain in *The Foundations of the 19th Century*, published in 1899, that the Aryan idea was imbued with the meaning that is typically associated with German Nazism.

The word *Aryan* originates from Sanskrit and means *noble* and is mentioned for the first time in connection with the Central Asiatic people that app. 1700 BC invaded and conquered Northwestern India. The ancient Indian civilisation was like that of ancient Persia: created by Indo-European White conquerors who called themselves Aryans (Sanskrit: *Aryas*). The Caste system in India was later created, among other things, in order to prevent the Aryans from becoming racially mixed with the subjugated non-White majority. In Sanskrit the word for caste (*varna*) also means colour. In Indian scriptures (by Patanjali) from as late as the centuries around the birth of Christ, the highest caste, the Brahmins, are described as having tawny hair, and in other old scriptures (*sastras*) the skin colour of the Brahmins is described as white.

The ancient Indian (Aryan) civilization exerted great influence on the rest of Asia. For example are the famous temples, Angkor Wat in Cambodia and Borobudur on Java built according to the Indian model. In connection with the introduction of Buddhism in China followed a strong and profound influence of Indian culture. Buddhism came into being in India where it originated from the ancient Aryan (Vedic) religion and philosophy, just like present Hinduism. In the west the Arabs learned from Brahmin India, together with basic mathematics the numerals that we apply in the West today.

In spite of the harsh Indian caste system, the castes became more or less mixed and the result is the chaotic India we know today.

It should thus be easy to understand that it was not German Nazis who invented the Aryan idea. It is also important to understand that there was neither immigration to nor immigrants in Germany from the third world in the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s.* German National Socialism was in fact first and foremost about asserting Germany and the German people (e.g., in relation to the Versailles Treaty with its harsh consequences for

the German people), whereas the idea of race was of much less importance. Hitler said several times that National Socialism knows only Germany and is not meant for export. Even the hostility toward the Jews seems to be rooted mostly in classical anti-Semitism with the allegation of a secret Jewish world conspiracy where the matter of race seems to play a less clear part.

It is also interesting that the best friends and allies of Nazi-Germany were Italy, Japan, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Finland which, except for Japan, dispatched considerable military forces to the eastern front to fight on the German side. **If the campaign against the Soviet Union really had German expansion (*Lebensraum*) as its chief purpose, then it is difficult to understand what interest(s) these countries could have had in participating on the German side.**

In the Waffen-SS nearly half of the soldiers were foreigners at the end of the war -- e.g. there was the SS-division *Galizien* (Galicia), which was composed of Ukrainian volunteers as well as the SS-division *Handschar*, which was composed of Bosnian Muslim volunteers. The Waffen-SS was thus the first German **multicultural army** and **to this day the most cosmopolitan**. Apart from this, the Indian Legion became part of the regular German army: a legion composed of 4,000 Indian volunteers as well as an Arabic Corps called *Freies Arabien*. Spain dispatched the *Azul* division to the eastern front, which among others was composed of General Franco's Moroccan elite troops who some years before had taken part in bringing the fascist regime to power in Spain.

The campaign against the Soviet Union was first and foremost an ideological crusade against communism. Communism was called "Jewish Bolshevism" by the Nazis, as it was believed that the Jews were behind communism. It was therefore, according to the Nazis, necessary to clamp down particularly hard on the Jews because communism was seen as the greatest danger to Germany and the rest of humanity.



20 000 Bosniaques musulmans se sont engagés dans la Waffen SS à l'appel de Haj Amin El-Husseini, le Grand Mufti de Jérusalem, qui s'était réfugié en Allemagne pour y prêcher le Djihad contre les Juifs.

Handschar Bosnian Muslims.

The picture above shows Bosnian Muslim SS-soldiers in their Handschar Muslim uniforms. Please note the SS skull on their Muslim Fez. The runic SS letters on the collar have been replaced with the Muslim scimitar and a swastika. The Muslim SS-soldiers were never served pork and could pray according to Islamic custom. **So much for Nazi ethnic intolerance!**



Haj Amin al-Husseini, the Grand Mufti, salutes Bosnian Muslim troops.

The picture above shows the Arabic Grand Mufti of Jerusalem in front of Bosnian Muslim SS-soldiers. The Grand Mufti was granted political asylum in Nazi Germany and was thus one of the first Palestinian political refugees in Germany. This proves, however, that there were a few people from the third world in Germany and they were all approved by the Nazi regime.

**One ought to add that Nazi-Germany in 1937 introduced the foreign worker (Gastarbeiter) system.*

The first foreign workers were Italians. Later followed other nationalities — Danes, among others. Forced labor was only introduced after the extensive Allied air raids against civilians in German cities, which caused a large number of foreign workers to flee back to their home countries.



Генерал-армії генерал-поручик Павло Шандрук, командир Української Національної Кошики в складі Української Повстанської Армії, лютий 1945 р.

Ukrainian General Pavlo Shandruk.

Above is the Ukrainian general, Pavlo Shandruk, who became the commander of the Ukrainian SS-division Galicia. As desired by the Ukrainians, this division later fell under the jurisdiction of the UNA, the Ukrainian National Army -- an army designed to liberate Ukraine from Bolshevism. Below is a soldier from this army. Below that are two Ukrainian women working in the German air force as radio operators.



A Ukrainian soldier.



Ukrainian women volunteers.

Below: The Spanish general, Antonio Munoz Grandes who was the commander of the *Azul* division from Spain.



Antonio Munoz Grandes

These men below are Russian officers in the ROA, the Russian Liberation Army (In Russian: **Russkaya Osvoboditelnaya Armiya**). They were part of the vast group of captured Russian soldiers who joined the Germans and their Allies in the struggle against Bolshevism. The officer second from the left is General Vlasov. The ROA consisted of two divisions under the command of General Vlasov and its popular name was Vlasov's army.



The ROA and Vlasov.

These Muslim men below were part of the Azerbaijani Legion. Members from almost every ethnic group in the Soviet Union joined the Germans and their Allies in the struggle against Bolshevism.



Ազերայի զինուորականները
1942 թվականի մայիսի 1-ին

Azerbaijani soldiers

Indian volunteers.



Indian volunteers

This picture below shows the son of the Chinese nationalist leader Chiang Kai Shek, Chiang Wei Guo. He got his military education in Nazi Germany and participated in the invasion of Poland in 1939 with the rank of lieutenant.



Chiang Wei-guo

An African soldier in the Arabic section of the Nazi German army, "Freies Arabien".



Researchers Clark and Krampe have revealed who this man is for the first time ever in the hardcover edition of *Black Nazis!* His name was Sam and he was an African American medical student who served under Franz Wimmer. The hardcover edition of *Black Nazis!* is now available from LuLu.com. Just \$20.99 plus shipping!



The "Freies Arabien" patch.

What did Hitler really say about race? In his political testament he writes the following:

"Our racial pride is not aggressive except in so far as the Jewish race is concerned. We use the term Jewish race as a matter of convenience, for in reality and from the genetic point of view there is no such thing as the Jewish race. There does, however, exist a community, to which, in fact, the term can be applied and the existence of which is admitted by the Jews themselves. It is the spiritually homogeneous group, to membership of which all Jews throughout the world deliberately adhere, regardless of their whereabouts and of their country of domicile; and it is this group of human beings to which we give the title Jewish race....The Jewish race is first and foremost an abstract race of the mind....A race of the mind is something more solid, more durable than just a race, pure and simple...."

Danish volunteers in the Waffen SS



Kryssing

C.P. Kryssing was the first commander of the Danish volunteers in the Waffen SS during WW2. He was not a National Socialist and thus did not want his countrymen in the SS to be instructed in that ideology, which he regarded as German and not Danish. He was loyal to the Danish system of government -- democracy -- and thought that Danes should only participate in international combat against Bolshevism, leaving German ideology and thinking out. This attitude brought him in conflict with the leadership of the SS as well as National Socialists among the Danish volunteers. The leadership of the SS decided that all members of the Waffen SS, irrespective of nationality, should have the same education. He was then given a choice by Himmler to either leave the SS or be transferred to another unit. As he did not want to return to Denmark as a failure he chose the latter. Being a skillful artillery officer educated by the Danish army, he quickly rose to the rank of *Brigadeführer* (that is Brigadier General or Major-General) and became the commander of an entirely German artillery division named "Küste" composed of soldiers from the SS and regular German army. Despite his nationalist arrogance towards the Germans and their political ideology, he nevertheless reached one of the highest ranks in the SS. Remember that Hitler said several times that National Socialism knows only Germany and is not meant for export. In June 1944 he again had problems in getting along with the Germans and he filed his resignation, **but again Himmler persuaded him to stay which he did to the end of the war.**



Schalburg

After Kryssing left the Danish volunteers, C.F. Schalburg took over. Schalburg had no problems getting along with the Germans. Born in imperial Russia (Zmilingsorsk in Ukraine) -- the son of a Danish father and a Russian mother (maiden name: Siemenowska) -- he grew up in a Danish-German-Ukrainian-Russian community in Ukraine and later in Saint Petersburg. As a teenager he joined the Czarist cadet corps, but fled the country with his family after the Bolshevik takeover. Taking refuge in Denmark, Schalburg enlisted in the Royal Life Guard and worked his way up to the rank of Captain.

With the outbreak of the Russo-Finnish war, Schalburg organized a Danish volunteer battalion to fight on the side of the Finns. After the German occupation of Denmark in April 1940, Schalburg became one of the first volunteers for the new SS-Standarte "Nordland". During the first nine months in Russia, he came under fire many times and led battle groups in several engagements. He carried out hazardous intelligence missions on his own initiative as well, relying on his knowledge of the Russian language to carry him behind enemy lines. As a result he was quickly awarded both classes of the Iron Cross. The commander of the *SS Division Wiking*, *Gruppenführer* Felix Steiner, considered him one of the most capable, intelligent and totally courageous men in the division, and for that matter the entire Waffen-SS.



Back in the country of his birth

Russian speaking Schalburg (to the left) back in the country of his birth and childhood with two of his subordinate Danish officers. They are entertained by a young Russian girl from a Russian peasant family with whom they are quartered in the village Zimena. The Danes had just arrived in Russia, and on the back of this picture from a private photo album you can read the following (translated from Danish): "Lenka said: One would rather think that it was a crowd of tourists that had arrived."



*Ukrainske bønder flokker tillystende om russisktalende Schalburg.
Wiking 1941.*

Speaking to Ukrainian villagers

Schalburg is speaking in Russian to Ukrainian villagers. During his stay in Denmark he kept close contact with other refugees from Russia. He even converted to the Orthodox Church. Regarding his motive for joining the war against Bolshevism he wrote in his diary -- when he was attending the military academy in Denmark:

"I felt that it was my duty to revenge my family and the country I loved. Therefore I sought a thorough military education so that I would later be able to fight against the Bolsheviks, either in the White army or together with a country that was willing to fight Bolshevism. Every year I have hoped that the end of Bolshevism was near. Every one of us ought to have died for the Czar, and it is our greatest shame that we did not do so. This can only be expiated by defeating his murderers or by dying ourselves."



How was the attitude of the leadership of the SS towards all these foreign volunteers within their ranks? The following is a translation of a directive from the commander of the *SS Division Wiking*, Felix Steiner to his officers:

Div. Commandpost

Jan. 22 1942

SS Division Wiking

CO

Ref.: Personnel management and education in wartime.

This division's superiors, more than any other, must remain vigilant about humane leadership and take this into consideration when dealing with the troops, doing so in the right manner.

Development of comradeship between the various replacements for the division is a gradual process and therefore mistakes and injustices have a far more negative effect on them than on exclusively German troops.

The most important condition for maintaining reasonable, humane leadership is tireless and constant consideration on the part of the superiors for their men of the ranks. The superiors must achieve unwavering confidence from the ranks: the men of the ranks must always feel that their superiors are their comrades.

Accordingly it is decent, genuine and humane management that the superior must first and foremost bestow upon his ranks.

The soldiers must like him. All superiors must therefore have strong personal ties to their troops. Platoon and company commanders particularly have always to be about

them, to be their standard and example as well as their confidant in all events; and they must never exhibit an inhuman attitude.

The more reasonably, considerably and warm-heartedly a troop is led, the greater their inner tie and fighting quality. This especially applies to our Scandinavian volunteers: all superiors are to always act with deep seriousness and be active in cultivating *personal* relationships with their troops. The performances of the division will be carried out more decisively by all -- and with greater levels of satisfaction.

Signed Steiner.

Please note that there originally was a certain race criterion for admission to the SS introduced by Himmler when the SS consisted of parade soldiers and a guard for the National Socialist leadership. After pressure from Hitler, this criterion was abolished in 1938 and it was never applied to foreigners.



Steiner

This picture shows General Steiner on a visit to the Danish Waffen-SS volunteers.

*** I had to re-edit the Steiner letter because the translation by Ole was difficult for a native English speaker to understand. Ole did a marvelous job bringing us some rare info and photos and he deserves full credit for this concise and compelling piece. Beautiful work! I simply went through it and made it a little easier to read.*