**Sage Cote
UCSB Hist 133B
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**Excerpt from a Training Guide by SS-Sturmbannführer Paul Zapp on the "Jewish Question" (end of 1940)**

 **Analysis of *“Jewry”* by SS-Sturmbannführer Paul Zapp**

**Headnote:**

The document we will be exploring, *Jewry* by Paul Zapp (1904-1999), finds its significance in the impact of its use for indoctrination fuel for the genocide of Jews, and its use for Paul Zapp’s eventual arrest and trial in 1967. This document was a speech reprinted in a training manual for candidates and members of the senior service of the security police and “S.D.”. The “S.D.” were the intelligence agency of the SS in Nazi Germany.[[1]](#footnote-2) The speech made by Paul Zapp was meant to be a quick summary of the reasons for the “Jewish Question,” dehumanizing the Jewish populations of the world. Through analysis of Konrad Kwiet’s portrayal of Paul Zapp’s life in *Karrieren der Gewalt. Nationalsozialistische Täterbiographien*,I was able to acquire significant background information on Paul Zapp.2 This information includes Zapp’s religious roots, and his upbringing before this speech was made. These religious roots influenced Zapp’s speech and subsequent record of it. Paul Zapp’s wikipedia article offers a basic understanding of Zapp’s life as well as additional sources of information. It also allowed me to cross reference information I gained from other sources to see differences in interpretation. I utilized a book available on Project MUSE, as well as Greg Megargee and Christopher Browning’s *Encyclopedia of Camps and Ghettos.*3These books provided insight into Paul Zapp’s war crimes and the actions fueled by the rhetoric perpetuated in Zapp’s speech, *Jewry*.

Zapp was part of the “War Youth Generation” in Germany, which represented those born between 1901 and 1910. This was a center of Zapp’s identity. He believed it gave him his fortified character. Zapp also placed great value on his Protestant beliefs, which shows its influence in the document we are exploring. Zapp opens his speech by explaining an Old Testament verse, "The nations of the earth I will give to you, that you will devour them.”4 Zapp utilized this verse to explain what Jewish individuals used as a means to their world domination. Konrad Kwiet comments on such utilization of Old Testament quotes by Zapp by explaining how they were “fake quotations”. It is no surprise Zapp opened with a religious verse, given, as explained in *Karrieren der Gewalt. Nationalsozialistische Täterbiographien*, Zapp used “salvation anti-semitism” to justify the extermination of Jews. Salvation antisemitism was the belief that through liberation from Jewish rule, non-Jews would reach redemption and salvation. Paul Zapp “gave the 'Final Solution' a religious dimension.” 5

**Annotated Bibliography**

U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, College Park, MD, Record Group 242, T-175 / Roll 15 / Image 2518530-42; reprinted in Jürgen Matthias, Konrad Kwiet, Jürgen Förster, and Richard Breitman, eds., *Ausbildungsziel Judenmord? Weltanschauliche Erziehung von SS, Polizei, und Waffen-SS im Rahmen der 'Endlösung.'* Frankfurt am Main: S. Fischer, 2003, pp. 188-90. <https://ghdi.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=1530>
This is the document of focus for this source analysis assignment. I found a plethora of helpful sources to accompany this document in better understanding its origin. I utilized Konrad Kwiet’s biography of Paul Zapp, as well as taking his comments into mind. This document is stored in the United States National Archives because it was among records captured after World War II, and later used in Zapp’s trial and sentencing to life in prison in November of 1967.[[2]](#footnote-3) This document finds its significance as an example of the dehumanization of Jews that allowed for the senseless killing of Jews across Europe. Zapp perpetuates antisemitic ideals in this document that preceded World War Two, then acted upon such actions during World War Two, personally being charged with the deaths of 13,000 Jewish persons.[[3]](#footnote-4) This document was translated to English by Thomas Dunlap, who is a professional translator. He received his Bachelors and Master's degrees in history at Harvard University.

Wikipedia contributors, "Sicherheitsdienst," *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia,* <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Sicherheitsdienst&oldid=1213672058> (accessed March 16, 2024). This wikipedia article provides a greater understanding of who the “S.D.” were, and their greater purpose in Nazi Germany. I used this knowledge in the headnote to provide a quick explanation of this group.

“Paul Zapp” page. In: Wikipedia - The free encyclopedia. Processing status: March 8, 2024, 15:48 UTC. URL: <https://de.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Paul_Zapp&oldid=242929121> (Acessed: March 16, 2024, 06:42 UTC)  [This wikipedia article provides more information and possible sources that could be explored further. By analyzing the sources that this article used I was able to find my own sources and greater understanding of Paul Zapp’s life. This article mentions Zapp’s evasion of occupational police after WW2 through the new name “](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Zapp)*Friedrich Böhm*”. The source Wikipedia provides for this information, Ernst Klee's *Personal encyclopedia of the Third Reich. Who was what before and after 1945* is credible, and Konrad Kwiet also references it in his biography of Zapp.[[4]](#footnote-5)

[*Paul Zapp: Vordenker und Vollstrecker der Judenvernichtung*](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Konrad_Kwiet). In: [Klaus-Michael Mallmann](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Klaus-Michael_Mallmann) and [Gerhard Paul](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gerhard_Paul_%28Historiker%29) (eds.). *Karrieren der Gewalt. Nationalsozialistische Täterbiographien.* [WBG](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wissenschaftliche_Buchgesellschaft) Darmstadt **2004**; Neuaufl. Primus **2011**­. <https://search.library.ucsb.edu/permalink/01UCSB_INST/1aqck9j/alma9913751556706531>
This source provided the bulk of my information regarding Paul Zapp’s life before and after his speech, *Jewry*. I was able to obtain this book through an interlibrary loan. The entire book is in German, though through the Google Translate app on my phone I was able to take pictures of the pages and directly translate them. The app takes a picture of the text needing translation and translates the text right there in the image. I subsequently screenshotted each page I translated and was able to read the entire chapter in English, as if it were an online English translation. I understand the limitations of this method of translation, and if I was fluent in German I’m sure I would notice some inconsistencies. Overall, I believe this method of translation was quite effective in the procurement of information on Paul Zapp. The information I acquired made sense, and other sources on Paul Zapp such as Wikipedia had the same ideas in less detail. Through cross analysis of sources I was able to understand the Google Translate translation was credible. In regards to the author of the source I analyzed, Konrad Kwiet, I was able to find information regarding him through wikipedia. This was also in German, though the website was able to automatically translate to English, also utilizing Google Translate this time built into the browser. I found that Kwiet studied political science at universities in Berlin and Amsterdam, as well as receiving his doctorate from the Free University of Berlin in 1967. Paul Zapp was put on trial in 1967 and it is likely that Kwiet would have been present for the news that this brought during this period.

Browning, C.R., Dean, M., & Megargee, G.P. (**2012**). *The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Encyclopedia of Camps and Ghettos, 1933-1945, Volume II*: *Ghettos in German-Occupied Eastern Europe*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
This source allowed for further exploration of Paul Zapp’s trial in 1967. I utilized a quote from this book in my understanding of Zapp’s trial. I found this quote in a source that explained Zapp’s crimes during the war. This book is in English, and is fully accessible as a public source through Project MUSE. “The Jews had to get into the van with all their clothes on. No selection took place. Men, women, and children had to get on board. I would estimate that each time around 60 people had to climb into the van. . . . It did not look like the Jews knew they would be gassed.” This quote displays why the ideals expressed in Paul Zapp’s speech are important. His teachings fueled the flames of antisemitism within the German military, as well as found themselves put to action during Zapp’s wartime leadership opportunity as an SS-Sturmbannführer.

Holz, Karl. *Der Marxismus Ist Der Schutzengel Des Kapitalismus , Wahlt Nationalsozialisten Liste 1*. 1918/1939. University of Minnesota Libraries. <https://jstor.org/stable/community.12310150>.

This image portrays a stereotype typical of anti-semetic propaganda depicting a greedy jewish capitalist. An alternative title to this poster is: Marxism is the guarding angel of capitalism , Vote for National-Socialists List No.

1. Wikipedia. “Sicherheitsdienst.” Wikipedia, February 20, 2024.

2 [Konrad Kwiet](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Konrad_Kwiet): *Paul Zapp: Vordenker und Vollstrecker der Judenvernichtung*. In: [Klaus-Michael Mallmann](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Klaus-Michael_Mallmann) and [Gerhard Paul](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gerhard_Paul_%28Historiker%29) (eds.). *Karrieren der Gewalt. Nationalsozialistische Täterbiographien.* [WBG](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wissenschaftliche_Buchgesellschaft) Darmstadt **2004**; Neuaufl. Primus **2011**­.<https://search.library.ucsb.edu/permalink/01UCSB_INST/1aqck9j/alma9913751556706531>

3 Browning, C.R., Dean, M., & Megargee, G.P. (**2012**). *The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Encyclopedia of Camps and Ghettos, 1933-1945, Volume II*: *Ghettos in German-Occupied Eastern Europe*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. The US National Archives Record Group 242, T-175 is described here: https://www.archives.gov/research/holocaust/finding-aid/military/rg-242.html. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Mallmann, Klaus-Michael, and Gerhard Paul, eds. *Karrieren der Gewalt: nationalsozialistische Täterbiographien*. 2., durchgesehene Aufl. Darmstadt: Primus, 2011. Pg. 252. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Ernst Klee, *Personal Encyclopedia of the Third Reich. Who was what before and after 1945*. Fischer paperback, Frankfurt am Main 2005, p. 690. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)