

“Whoever wears a Jewish Star is marked as an ‘ enemy of the people.’ Whoever still goes around with [a Jew] privately in everyday life belongs to him and must be valued and treated as a Jew. He earns the contempt of the entire people, whom he abandons in base cowardice at the hardest moment, by putting himself at the side of his despiser.”

Goebbels, *Die Juden sind Schuld*, November 16, 1941

Following are translations from Joseph Goebbels Diary are from: *Die Tagebücher von Joseph Goebbels*, Elke Frölich, ed. (Munich: K. G. Saur)

"Also concerning the Jewish Question. the Führer is fully in agreement with my points of view. He wants a forceful policy against the Jews, though one that does not cause us unnecessary difficulties. The evacuation of the Jews is to be conducted city by city. It is therefore still unclear when it will be Berlin's turn; but when it has its turn, then the evacuation should also be carried out as quickly as possible. Concerning the Jewish mixed marriages, especially those in artist's circles, the Führer recommends that I follow a somewhat reserved course of action since he is of the opinion that these marriages in any case will die out bit by bit, and one shouldn't get any gray hair over this.”

Goebbels Diary, Nov 22, 1941

"I am reading an extensive memorandum from the SD and Police about the Final Solution of the Jewish Question. From it arise a vast array of new considerations. The Jewish question has to be solved in the entire European context. In Europe there are still more than 11 million Jews. They must later first of all be concentrated in the East; perhaps one could allot them an island, for example Madagascar, after the war. In any case there will be no peace and quiet in Europe if the Jews are not entirely pushed out of the European territory. That raises a gazillion questions of extraordinary delicacy. What happens to the half-Jews, what happens to those related to Jews, their in-laws, those married to Jews? We will thus be having a few things to do and in the context of solving this problem a whole lot of personal tragedies will play out. But that is unavoidable. Now the situation is ripe to apply a final solution to the Jewish question. Later generations will no longer possess the drive and also no longer have the alertness of instinct. That's why we are doing well to proceed radically and consistently here. What today saddles us as a burden will be a fortune and advantage for those who come after us."

Goebbels Diary, March 7, 1942

“It is astonishing how strongly indeed the English Volk, above all those in the highest circles, have been corrupted by Jewry (verjudet) and hardly show English character any longer. That can in fact be traced back mainly to the fact that the top ten thousand are so strongly infected by Jewish marriages that they can barely still think like English.”

Goebbels Diary, March 12, 1942

"The Führer once again gives voice to his firm determination, to remove the Jews from Berlin at any rate. The claims of our economic advisors and manufacturers that they

could not do without the so-called fine work of the Jews, also does not impress him."
Goebbels Diary, September 30, 1942.

(See Speer's record of the same week: "In the meeting of 20 to 22 September, Hitler ordered Saukel to deport all Jews who are still working in armament factories in eastern locations. By this, [Hitler] meant mostly the Berlin Jews." Albert Speer, *Der Sklavenstaat* [Stuttgart, 1981], 346.)

"The Führer commissioned me with first ensuring that the unprivileged full Jews are taken out of Germany. Once they are all gone, we can approach the remaining remnants of the Jewish problem."

The specific way that Goebbels used the word "privileged" only in relationship to intermarried Jews indicates his intention to deport intermarried Jews wearing the star but not those who did not. (see his entry for 18 April 1943, below on "Jews wearing Jewish stars running around the capital.")

Goebbels' Diary, December 6, 1942

In the same December 6 entry, Goebbels wrote: "I am presented with a new proposal for the liquidation of Jewish marriages: proceed by compelling divorce and otherwise resort to evacuation [inclusion in Holocaust deportations]."

These were the plans of Himmler's subordinates. Goebbels rejected this plan for compelling divorce as he had done 7 months earlier in March, since as he said then it would evoke oppositional opinion. But at the same meeting Goebbels received Hitler's authorization for the second part of the October 27 plan which called for the deportation of intermarried Jews wearing the star. Acting Justice Minister Franz Schlegelberger had pointed out earlier that compelling divorce of intermarried couples would not work since these couples would remain together in any case, facing life and death together.

Goebbels' Diary, December 6, 1942

Sepp Dietrich "even offers to possibly place a company of the [SS] Leibstandarte [Hitler] at my disposal once, so that I can reach my goal with brute force, which is not exactly the appropriate means by which to prevail, under the current circumstances." [particularly the massively increased Allied bombing offensive of German cities and the German defeat at Stalingrad]

Goebbels' Diary, February 2, 1943

"The Jews in Berlin will now once and for all be pushed out. With the final deadline of February 28, they are supposed to be first collected in camps and then deported, up to 2,000, batch-by-batch, day-by-day. I have set for myself a goal to make Berlin entirely free of Jews by the middle or end of March at the latest."

Goebbels Diary, February 18, 1943

"We are pushing the Jews once and for all out of Berlin. This past Saturday they were collected without warning and will now be pushed off to the East very shortly. Unfortunately, in this case too it turned out that the better classes, in particular the intellectuals, do not understand our Jewish policies and in some measure take sides with the Jews. As a consequence, news of our action was prematurely betrayed so that a whole lot of Jews has slipped through our hands. But we will nevertheless still get ahold of them. In any case, I will not rest until the Reich capital at least has become totally free of Jews." *Goebbels Diary, March 2, 1943*

"The SD considers this exact moment to be right for proceeding with the evacuation of the Jews. Unfortunately, some disagreeable scenes have played out in front of a Jewish Old People's Home. The people gathered together in large throngs and even sided with the Jews to some extent. I will commission the security police not to continue the Jewish evacuations during such a critical time. Rather we want to put that off for a few weeks; then we can carry it out all the more thoroughly. One has to intervene all over the place, to ward off damages. The efforts of certain offices are so lacking in savvy that one cannot leave them on their own for ten minutes. The basic malady of our leadership and above all of our administration consists in operating according to Schema F [incapable of adapting orders to circumstances]. One has the impression that these people, who carry out this or that measure, don't reflect one bit, but rather hang to the written word, whose main value to them is that they thus have their actions covered by orders from above." *Goebbels Diary, March 6, 1943.*

"I discuss the news about Berlin with Gutterer [Goebbels' Deputy for the Greater Berlin Gau/region]. There is nothing essentially new to report. . . The Führer has the greatest understanding for the psychological questions of the war and expressed himself very sharply about the tactical imprudence of prominent persons as well as their wives. . . In the Jewish question he approves of my actions and specifically gives me the mandate to render Berlin free of Jews . . . I describe my actions to the Führer as generous toward the people, hard toward the wrong doers. The Führer also considers this completely correct." Gutterer confirmed in interviews in August 1986 at his home in Aachen with Nathan Stoltzfus that Goebbels did make the decision to release rather than deport the intermarried Jews imprisoned at Rosenstrasse, because this was the easiest way to get rid of the street protests, and that Goebbels reviewed this decision with Hitler on March 9. --*Goebbels Diary, 9 March 1943*

"The evacuation of the Jews from Berlin did in fact lead to some disagreements. Unfortunately, the Jews and Jewesses from privileged marriages were arrested too at first, which led to great fear and confusion. Because of the short-sightedness of industrialists, who warned the Jews in time, the supposed arrest of Jews on one day was a flop. In total, 4,000 Jews evaded us. They are now going around unregistered and without housing in Berlin and comprise, of course, a great danger for the public. I order the police, army and party to put everything into settling up with these Jews as fast as possible. The arrest of Jews and Jewesses from privileged marriages had a particularly strong,

sensational affect on artist circles. Because precisely among actors these privileged marriages exist in a certain number. But in the moment I can't pay overly much attention to that. If a German man can still even now manage to live in a legal marriage with a Jewess, then that speaks against him absolutely, and during war there is no longer time to be all too sentimental in judging this question."

Goebbels Diary, 11 March 1943

"The Jewish question in Berlin is still not yet completely solved. A whole collection of so-called 'Geltungsjuden' ['half-Jewish' 'Mischlinge' who are considered Jews and wear the Star of David], Jews from privileged intermarriages ["full Jews" according to the Nuremberg Laws but exempted from wearing the Star of David], and also Jews from intermarriages ["full Jews" required to wear the Star of David, who comprised the vast majority interned on Rosenstrasse] are still to be found in Berlin. A lot of extraordinarily difficult problems arise from this. In any case I authorize that all Jews who still find themselves in Berlin, will undergo a further inspection. I do not want Jews with the Jewish star running around the Reich capital. Either one must take the Jewish star away and privilege them, or on the other hand once and for all evacuate them from the Reich capital. I am convinced that with the freeing of Berlin of the Jews, I have completed one of my greatest political achievements. "

--Goebbels Diary, 18 April 1943

"We are faced once again with the problem of whether to reopen the schools in Berlin. So far I have turned this down. If we open the schools again, the stream of evacuees returning [to their homes] will continue uninterrupted. One dare not bend to the will of the people in this point [evacuations] since the people of course have no overview of the coming probable developments in the air war." The shuffling back and forth of German masses between evacuation sites and their bombed home cities puts an undue strain on the transportation (train) system, Goebbels wrote, and "we must therefore try to dam up this reverse current with suitable measures. If this is not to be achieved through friendly cajoling, then one must use force. It is not true that force does not lead to results. Of course it leads to results if it is explained to the public with the necessary specificity, and then is actually deployed. Up until now, one has not sensed any of this, and the people know just exactly where the flexible spot of the leadership is, and will always exploit this. Should we firm up this spot where we have been soft up until now, then the will of the people will bend to the will of the state. Currently we're on the best path to bending the will of the state to the will of the people. I consider that to be extraordinarily cataclysmic, not only from the objective perspective but also from the standpoint of leadership in general. The state may never, against its better insight, give in to the pressure of the street. If it does this the second time, it will be still less strong than it was the first time, and gradually lose its entire authority."

Goebbels wrote this after a women's protest of 300 the previous month in Germany's Ruhr area.

Goebbels Diary, November 2, 1943

