

Wear's Warts: on the amusing lies of John Wear

Bridging the seismic gulf between historical fact and the musings of a bottom rung Holocaust denier and Nazi apologist. No Race Supremacists. No 'Truth Seekers'. No Nazis.

REVISIONIST HISTORY

The Wilful Deceptions To Incite A New World War: Or How to Blame Everyone but Adolf Hitler for World War Two.

REUNION IN VIENNA



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REUNION IN VIENNA



And so we have another Article from the Wear camp attempting to absolve Nazi Germany from all responsibility for WW2 and excusing Adolf Hitler for his planned expansion in the east. Let's see what Mr Wear has to say for himself.

Hitler's first success in breaking the chains of Versailles was a legal victory in the Saar plebiscite on January 13, 1935.

Considering that most of the Saar region was predominantly German this is hardly a surprise. Many held a great deal of resentment over the decisions made in 1919. Still, the probable success in the plebiscite did not stop the full effort of the German propaganda ministry from manipulating public opinion.

The Saar inhabitants who voted overwhelmingly to return to Germany were mostly industrial workers – Social Democrats or Roman Catholics. They knew what awaited them in Germany: a dictatorship, the destruction of trade unions, and restrictions on freedom of expression.[4] They knew of the establishment of the Dachau concentration camp and the execution of scores of SA members in the Röhm purge on June 30, 1934. The German economy in January 1935 was also not substantially better than that of France or other countries in Europe. The Saar election was evidence that the appeal of German nationalism could be irresistible.

Indeed. Very noble of Mr Wear to highlight the real situation in Germany after the Nazi takeover.

Hitler began an assault on the Versailles provisions with the creation of a German air force on March 9, 1935.

Hitler was feeling more confident after the Saar success.

Hitler wanted to increase German military strength to 550,000 troops because of this Franco-Russian threat.

There was no perceived threat from the USSR. German military thought was of a possible attack from the neighbouring countries of France, Czechoslovakia Poland or Belgium.

Hitler challenged this limitation when he sent troops into the Rhineland on March 7, 1936. Although this was a major gamble by Hitler, France was unwilling to challenge Hitler without British support. Britain was unwilling to authorize anything resembling war because there was a general feeling in Britain that Germany was only asserting a right of sovereignty within her own borders.

This is a rather unusual action for a nation that was, according to Mr wear and his friends, itching for a war with Germany! Here was an excuse to go to war and yet the British did their best to avoid it.

Germany was now able to protect her western borders by constructing the Siegfried Line.

...and yet, according to Mr Wear,

France had built the most gigantic fortifications ever seen in any land,

France had no right to build defenses of her own. The Maginot Line was a DEFENSIVE construction.

Lloyd George was "spellbound by Hitler's astonishing personality and manner"

As were many politicians and industrialists in the early 1930s.

Other British statesmen were also impressed with Hitler. In a book published in 1937, Churchill expresses his "admiration for the courage, the perseverance, and the vital force which enabled [Hitler] to challenge, defy, conciliate, or overcome, all the authorities or resistances which barred his path."

Mr Wear seems to be a little confused here. In 1937 we see admiration for Adolf Hitler in Churchill's eyes, and yet in 1936, we have this alleged Churchill quote given at the end of Mr Wear's article:

"We will force Hitler into war, whether he wants it or not."

So how does that one work then?

The Anschluss

The statesmen at the Paris Peace Conference had wanted to divide rather than unify Austria and Germany.

Austria and Germany were 2 separate and independent countries.

As far back as April and May of 1921, plebiscites on a union with Germany were held in Austria at the Tyrol and at Salzburg. The votes in the Tyrol were over 140,000 for the Anschluss and only 1,794 against. In Salzburg, more than 100,000 voted for union with Germany and only 800 against.

That was in 1921. When Hitler came to power in 1933 that view changed enormously. After 1933 it was only the Pan Germans in Austria that desired unity with Germany. Very few others did.

Any notion that Hitler had nothing but economic union to the benefit of both countries on his mind can easily be dispelled. Hitler was quite adamant that Austria would be absorbed into the German Reich and was writing about this in Mein Kampf:

“German-Austria must return to the great German mother country, and not because of any economic considerations. No, and again, no: even if such a union were unimportant from an economic point of view; yes, even if it were harmful, it must nevertheless take place. One blood demands one Reich.”

Moreover, Austria's geographical position linked it to areas further east which were in Hitler's mind.

The Allied refusals also increased the desire of German and Austrian nationalists to exercise their right of self-determination.

Austria HAD self determination. Only Austrian National Socialists wanted a unification.

Lord Halifax mentioned the important questions of Danzig, Austria, and Czechoslovakia on his own initiative without any prompting from Hitler. Halifax told Hitler that Great Britain realized that the Paris Treaties of 1919 contained mistakes that had to be rectified.

That is NOT what Lord Halifax actually said. Lord Halifax talked about “possible alterations” that “might come about with the passage of time”. Halifax's main concern that war should NOT break out.

So here we have Britain making every effort NOT to go to war.

Lord Halifax went on to note what Hitler said to him at the meeting:

“Germany did not want to annex Austria or to reduce her to political dependence...”

At that time, this was probably true. Hitler wanted close ties with Austria and an Austrian government that was sympathetic to the Nazi cause. That meant putting in places of power key Austrian National Socialists.

Lord Halifax had given Hitler his approval for the peaceful incorporation of Germans in Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Danzig into Germany

That might be what Hitler believed; it was not quite what Lord Halifax said.

*“Lord Halifax had told Hitler: [They] “fell into the category of **possible** alterations in the European order which **might** be destined to come about **with the passage of time**”*

In other words...a natural and not forced solution to the issue, and over a period of time. What concerned Lord Halifax was completely the opposite to what Mr Wear and his friends want us to believe. Lord Halifax did **NOT** want a war to break out over Hitler's expansionist plans.

Hitler's agenda was no surprise to European statesmen. Any German nationalist would demand adjustments to the frontiers laid down at Versailles.

That is quite obvious. Nobody is claiming that they didn't.

With Great Britain's approval of the peaceful annexation of Austria into Germany,

Lord Halifax agreed in principle to closer economic ties between Germany and Austria. He did not agree to any annexation and nor did Hitler mention anything about annexation. Lord Halifax noted in a confidential memorandum after his meeting, that Hitler had said he did not want to annex Austria, nor "reduce her to political dependence".

Since the summer of 1934, Austria had been governed by a conservative dictatorship headed by Dr. Kurt von Schuschnigg. Schuschnigg persecuted Austrians who favored unification with Germany.

Mr Wear fails to tell us why the Austrian National Socialist movement was declared illegal. In 1934, the Austrian Nazis had murdered Austrian Chancellor Engelbert Dollfuss. This did not stop a continual flow of agitation throughout Austria by Austrian Nazis. In 1938 documents were discovered implicating Austrian Nazis in plans to carry out serious disturbances including murder as a way of bringing Schuschnigg to his knees.

Schuschnigg met with Hitler at Berchtesgaden on February 12, 1938, complaining of the attempted overthrow of his government by Austrian National Socialists. Hitler and Schuschnigg reached an agreement that day, but Schuschnigg claimed that Hitler had been violent in manner during the first two hours of conversation.

There was no "agreement". Terms were forced upon Schuschnigg by Adolf Hitler. The main term was that Austrian Nazi, Seyss be made Minister of the Interior and that his powers should include control of the police.

Some accounts of their meeting say that Schuschnigg was bullied by Hitler and subject to a long list of indignities.

Hitler insisted that 3 of his generals be at the Berghof to intimidate the Austrian chancellor. Hitler carried out a ferocious verbal attack all morning.

Schuschnigg began to consider means of repudiating the agreement made with Hitler in their meeting on February 12, 1938.

The DEMANDS were the following:

1. End all restrictions on the Austrian Nazi Party.
2. An amnesty for all those previously arrested.
3. The appointment of Seyss-Inquart as Minister of the Interior with control over the armed forces.
4. Austrian Nazi, Glaise-Hostenau to be made War Minister.
5. Integration of the Austrian economic system with that of Germany.

Hitler threatened Schuschnigg with a German march into Austria if those demands were not met. Schuschnigg reluctantly agreed to sign. The day after, Keitel ordered fake military manoeuvres near the Austrian border. Goebbels made an interesting comment in his diary:

“The world press rages. Speaks of rape. Not entirely without justification”.

At this point, Hitler was not intending to use military force. He was quite happy to erode Austrian independence from the inside.

On March 9, 1938, Schuschnigg announced that a plebiscite would be held four days later on March 13, 1938, to decide, finally and forever, whether Austria was to remain an independent nation.

...and it threw Nazi plans completely into disarray. It was at this point that Hitler discussed plans for an actual military entry into Austria as well as mobilizing 4,000 exiled Austrian Nazis and 7,000 paramilitary reservists.

The planned plebiscite was completely unfair.

Well, it would if you were a Nazi expecting to take over Austria without a fight.

During preparations for the election, the government press in Austria announced that anyone voting “no” would be guilty of treason.

That was newspaper talk. It was quite true. To vote “NO” would effectively hand over Austria to German control. That, to the Austrian government would indeed be treason.

Hitler was shocked by Schuschnigg’s proposed plebiscite. Hitler had hoped for an evolutionary strategy in Austria that would gradually merge Austria into the Reich.

He certainly was. Somebody had actually got the nerve to stand up to him. The strategy had just come unstuck.

However, Hitler felt humiliated and betrayed by Schuschnigg, and he could not let the phony plebiscite proceed.

Hitler demanded that the plebiscite be cancelled and run later, on the same lines as the Saarland. He also demanded Schuschnigg’s resignation. Schuschnigg resigned and the Austrian government yielding to force said the army would not respond to any military intervention to prevent bloodshed. Immediately Austrian Nazis went on the rampage, taking over government buildings and trying for a coup without German intervention. Goring urged the Leader of the Austrian Nazis to appeal for military help to curb the violence and unrest. After all, the Germans needed an excuse to legitimately enter Austria.

After receiving word on March 11, 1938, that Mussolini accepted the Anschluss

Mussolini initially did not agree to the Anschluss. He agreed to German intervention only. All was irrelevant as the leading Austrian Nazi, Seyss-Inquart was signed in as Federal Chancellor.

Hitler invaded anyway, even though his demands had now been met.

Hitler was greeted with a joyously enthusiastic reception from the mass of the Austrian people

Hitler was welcomed in by joyous Austrian Nazis. Hitler was so impressed that it was at this point that he considered a full Anschluss. He contacted Mussolini again and Mussolini gave his consent to the takeover.

By evening of the 13 March, Austria had become a German province. The Austrian army was sworn in to Hitler.

However, Schuschnigg and his entire cabinet had resigned from office after Britain, France, and Italy all denounced the phony plebiscite.

That is not true. Britain did not denounce “the phony plebiscite” she simply stated she could not provide help to the Austrians.

Hitler feared that Austrian Marxists might take advantage of Austria's momentary political vacuum and stage an uprising. Göring also warned of the possibility that Austria's neighbors might exploit its temporary weakness by occupying Austrian territory. Hitler decided to militarily occupy Austria to prevent either of these possibilities from occurring.

As stated earlier, an excuse was fabricated by the Germans to allow them to enter Austria legitimately. The violence had nothing to do with Austrian Marxists.

On April 10, 1938, joint plebiscites were held in Germany and Austria to approve the Anschluss. All Germans and Austrians over the age of 20 were eligible to vote, with the exception of Jews and criminals. The result of the poll was 99.08% of the people in favor of the Anschluss.

99.08% is not a realistic number. The plebiscite was obviously rigged or any opposition ruthlessly dealt with. Goebbels propaganda ministry gave themselves a pat on the back:

“Such an almost 100% election result is at the same time a badge of honour for all election propagandists”

Mass arrests started in Austria on the day the Germans crossed the border and mass intimidation and violence had started days before that.

The plebiscite might have been manipulated to some extent as shown by the near unanimous assent from the Dachau concentration camp. Also, the ballot was not anonymous since the voter's name and address were printed on the back of each ballot.

Exactly. All which makes this statement:

However, there is no question that the vast majority of people in Germany and Austria approved the Anschluss.

...meaningless!

Churchill's statement is a misrepresentation of the truth.

Actually Churchill's statement was true. On the first day of German occupation, 10 – 20,000 Austrians were already under arrest.

Churchill in his speech had begun the warmongering that led to World War II.

Don't be silly. The path to war was well and truly laid by Adolf Hitler.

For a more detailed look at The Anschluss then the book by established historian Ian Kershaw **“Hitler: Nemesis”** pages 65 – 86 is highly recommended.

This is the book on which my article is based.

◀ ANNEX ◀ ANSCHLUSS ◀ AUSTRIA ◀ DEMANDS ◀ EXPANSION ◀ HALIFAX ◀ MEIN
KAMPF ◀ SAAR ◀ SCHUSCHNIGG ◀ VERSAILLES



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