
Stauffenberg Portrat Eines Attentaters

The Women Who Flew for Hitler

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Secret Germany

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Portrat Eines
Attentaters*

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The Women Who Flew for Hitler

Jonathan Cape
Biographers' Club
Prize-winner Clare
Mulley's *The Women
Who Flew for Hitler*—a
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held convictions about honor and patriotism; but ultimately, while Hanna tried to save Hitler's life, begging him to let her fly him to safety in April 1945, Melitta covertly supported the most famous attempt to assassinate the Führer. Their interwoven lives provide vivid insight into Nazi Germany and its attitudes toward women, class, and race. Acclaimed biographer Clare Mulley gets under the skin of these two distinctive and unconventional women, giving a full—and as yet largely unknown—account of their contrasting yet strangely parallel lives, against a changing backdrop of the 1936 Olympics, the Eastern Front, the Berlin Air Club, and Hitler's

bunker. Told with brio and great narrative flair, *The Women Who Flew for Hitler* is an extraordinary true story, with all the excitement and color of the best fiction. Biographers' Club Prize-winner Clare Mulley's *The Women Who Flew for Hitler*—a dual biography of Nazi Germany's most highly decorated women pilots. Hanna Reitsch and Melitta von Stauffenberg were talented, courageous, and strikingly attractive women who fought convention to make their names in the male-dominated field of flight in 1930s Germany. With the war, both became pioneering test pilots and were awarded the Iron Cross for service to the Third Reich. But they could not have

been more different and neither woman had a good word to say for the other. Hanna was middle-class, vivacious, and distinctly Aryan, while the darker, more self-effacing Melitta came from an aristocratic Prussian family. Both were driven by deeply held convictions about honor and patriotism; but ultimately, while Hanna tried to save Hitler's life, begging him to let her fly him to safety in April 1945, Melitta covertly supported the most famous attempt to assassinate the Führer. Their interwoven lives provide vivid insight into Nazi Germany and its attitudes toward women, class, and race. Acclaimed biographer Clare Mulley gets under the skin of these two

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pioneering test pilots and both were awarded the Iron Cross for service to the Third Reich. But they could not have been more different. Hanna was middle-class and distinctly Aryan, while Melitta, though from an aristocratic Prussian family, was part-Jewish, and while Hanna tried to save Hitler's life, begging him to let her fly him to safety in April 1945, Melitta covertly supported the most famous assassination attempt on the Fuehrer. Neither woman had a good word to say for the other. Their lives constantly overlapped, offering a vivid insight into Nazi Germany and its attitudes to women, to class and to race. Acclaimed biographer Clare Mulley gets under the skin of these

two most distinctive and unconventional women, telling the full - and as yet largely unknown - story of their contrasting yet strangely parallel lives, against a changing backdrop of the 1936 Olympics, the Eastern Front, the Berlin Air Club, and Hitler's bunker. Told with brio and great narrative flair, *The Women Who Flew for Hitler* is an extraordinary true story, with all the excitement and colour of the best fiction. *Secret Germany* Macmillan + ORM From the bestselling authors of *The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail* and *The Dead Sea Scrolls Deception*, a stunning revelation of Hitler's secret enemy — Colonel Count Claus von Stauffenberg — and "Secret

Germany's" plot to kill the Fuhrer. At thirty-seven, Colonel Count Claus von Stauffenberg, Chief of Staff of the Reich Reserve Army, was a charismatic figure destined for supreme command. The group of conspirators with whom he conceived a plot to kill Hitler in July 1944 was called "Secret Germany." That was also the name of the esoteric circle in which Stauffenberg as a young man had been a disciple of the mystic anti-Nazi magus and poet Stefan George. What were the motivations of this extraordinary aristocratic soldier, with the looks of a Hollywood idol and reputed to be the only man to stare the

Fuhrer down until he averted his eyes? For Stauffenberg, the bomb plot was not a political move but a moral and spiritual necessity. After forty-two serious attempts on Hitler's life in the previous twenty years, why did he not succeed? Had he done so, some would say he would have become the de Gaulle of Germany, saviour of the nation's soul. Even in failure, there can be no doubt of Stauffenberg's heroism. He stands as atonement for the Third Reich and a resolution of the conflicting myths of German culture. In this remarkable investigation, his whole life explains a troubled past to the present generations of Europeans.

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