

Glossary

Aktion 1005 Top Secret Program begun in 1942 to cover up mass graves in the East.

Einsatzgruppe ‘operational group’ of SD and police behind the lines.

Einsatzkommando Subunit of *Einsatzgruppe*.

Four-Year Plan Hermann Göring’s armament program begun in 1936 and extended for the war’s duration.

Gauleiter Governor of a province in Nazi Germany and head of Nazi Party activity in the province.

General Government Official title of Nazi colonial puppet state in occupied Poland.

Gruppenführer SS rank equivalent to a major general.¹

Mischling Literally “mongrel,” this racist term denoted a person who had mixed Jewish and “Aryan” blood.

Obergruppenführer SS rank equivalent to a lieutenant general.

Referat Office within a Ministry, for example Eichmann led the *Referat* devoted to Jews.

Reichssicherheitshauptamt (RSHA) - Reich Security Main Office. This organization, led by Heydrich, encompassed all policing.

Sicherheitsdienst (SD) Security Service. This was the intelligence wing of the SS/RSHA.

Sicherheitspolizei (SiPo) Security Police.

Staatsektretär State Secretary, roughly equivalent to a U.S. Undersecretary of State.

Oberführer SS rank equivalent to between colonel and brigadier general.

Obersturmbannführer SS rank equivalent to a lieutenant colonel.

Sturmbannführer SS rank equivalent to a major.

Waffen-SS Armed wing of the SS, deployed at the front.

¹ Ranks are adapted from the glossary in Alex J. Kay, *The Making of an SS Killer: The Life of Colonel Alfred Filbert, 1905–1990*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016), xvi–xvii.

