

Topic 112

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From democracy to dictatorship

Hitler becomes chancellor

- 30 januar 1933 Hitler appointed chancellor
- 1 february Reichstag dissolved
- 2 february Göring sets up auxiliary police
- 25000 People are part of it (SS)

Enabling act

- 27 february Reichstag bourned down by an communist
- Hitler presueded president Hidenburg pass Decree for the protection
- Which suspended many civil laws
- They remove the freedom of the press and the freedom speech and assembly
- The Nazis use the power of the new decree to arrest 40000 Communists
- Although from the national socialists used terror, violence against political opponents & enemies ^{→restrictions}
- Hitler needed the support of DNVP because he only got 44%
- He passed laws without asking the Reichstag for approval
- 109 members of the Reichstag could not vote because the were arrested or had gone to underground
- Others were persuaded or feared
- The Enabling act was passed by a majority after that they had absolute might 23.3.1933

Bringing Germany into line

- now the National Socialists could make their own laws
- they bring every aspect of political and social life
- one of their aims was eliminate their opponents
- method they used were called "Gleichschaltung"
- NSDAP members joined Germanys police force
- SS was put in charge of the police

- Provincial governments and parliaments were undermined
- Who were Jewish or political opponents were dismissed or replaced by NSDAP members
- July 1933 Germany was officially a one-party state = NSDAP
- January 1934 state parliaments were abolished
- Government came under direct control of Hitler
- Political enemies gone to concentration camps
- Other parties were banned
- Other cultures were not allowed

August 1934 Death of Hindenburg- Hitler becomes "der Führer"