

## Georg Elser (1939)

### Abstract

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On the evening of November 8, 1939, a bomb exploded in Munich's *Bürgerbräukeller* [Citizens' Beer Hall] during a celebration marking the 16th anniversary of Hitler's Beer Hall Putsch. Several people were killed or injured. Hitler himself was not hurt. He had left the event a few minutes earlier than planned. Georg Elser, the perpetrator of the attack, equipped the bomb with a timer and placed it behind the speaker's lectern in a pillar that he spent weeks hollowing out. Elser had been linked to a few Communist organizations in the 1920s, but was acting alone in this instance. By assassinating Hitler, he hoped not only to kill one man but to destroy the entire Nazi regime, a dictatorship he had strongly opposed for years on political and moral grounds. Elser was arrested that very same evening and put into "protective custody." He was shot to death in Dachau on April 9, 1945. By then, Hitler had survived a series of assassination attempts, mainly by lone individuals. Nazi propaganda exploited these attempts by presenting them as evidence of Hitler's enjoyment of divine protection.

### Source

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Source: Georg Elser used the regular traditional celebration in Munich's *Bürgerbräukeller* to carry out a bomb attack. The attack on Adolf Hitler on November 8, 1939, resulted in seven deaths and 60 injuries. Hitler left the hall shortly before. Elser was executed in Dachau concentration camp in April 1945.

Unknown photographer.

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