

Members of the People's Army [*Volkssturm*] with Weapons and a Battering Ram during an Exercise in Sanssouci in Potsdam (Fall 1944)

Abstract

In the middle of 1944, the battlefronts began moving toward the German Reich. Starting in September of that year, all men between the ages 16 and 60 who were capable of bearing weapons were forced to defend the country in the People's Army [*Volkssturm*], the National Socialists' last stand against impending defeat. Inadequately trained and poorly armed, they were supposed to continue the war on German soil.

Source



Source: Volkssturm members, older men and youths, with rifles and bazookas during an exercise in Sanssouci Park in Potsdam. Date: Autumn 1944. Photo: Hilmar Pabel.

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