

# GEGEN DIE STRÖMUNG



Organ für den Aufbau der Revolutionären Kommunistischen Partei Deutschlands

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**Historical and current significance:**

## The storming of the Nazi headquarters in Berlin in April 1945

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By April 1945, the Nazi army had already been pushed back and crushed to a large extent by the struggle of the armies of the states of the anti-Hitler coalition, above all the Red Army, and the anti-Nazi forces of the countries that had been invaded and occupied by the Nazis. The defeat of the Nazi regime was foreseeable.

And yet: the Nazi headquarters, Berlin, was still heavily defended by more than a million members of the Wehrmacht, SS murderers and a so-called "Volkssturm". The decisive, two-week-long "Battle of Berlin" began, a battle that had only one goal: the unconditional surrender of the Nazi state. The Battle of Berlin cost the lives of over 80,000 Red Army soldiers.

In this last major battle, which was decisive for the war, several things became particularly clear: the numerically weak anti-Nazi forces in Germany had not succeeded in providing military support to the Red Army through their own actions or by organizing resistance, not even in Berlin. In Berlin, the former stronghold of the German Communist Party, the Nazi headquarters had to be conquered in street fighting, district by district, house by house.

The Red Army succeeded in capturing approx.

100,000 of the German Nazi soldiers were captured, over 100,000 German soldiers were killed in the fighting, over 400,000 German soldiers were wounded (the counting method varies depending on the period examined - usually from April 16 to May 2, 1945 - and the area examined - city or metropolitan area of Berlin, etc.)

Around 1 million Nazi soldiers were deployed in Berlin, around 200,000 members of the so-called "Volkssturm" consisting of young people and men aged between 16 and 60 were in Berlin, around 30,000 Nazi policemen, SS members and HJ members. The Nazis entrenched themselves in residential buildings and

buildings - in the end all the way to the Reich

The Germans used the tunnel systems of the S-Bahn and U-Bahn and used the civilian population as a shield on a large scale. They were not prepared to surrender, to capitulate. This was a major reason for the high losses suffered by the Red Army in the last days of the war.

### House by house, floor by floor against Nazi murderers

In order to facilitate the advance of its own troops and avoid even greater losses, the Red Army had to systematically bombard Nazi positions with artillery and systematically destroy the Nazis.

Luftwaffe to bomb Nazi military nests. It is important to understand that almost 100,000 of Berlin's non-armed civilian population (out of a population of around 2.8 million) lost their lives in these armed conflicts. It became clear that a militarily fortified city, in which the individual houses had been converted into military bases, could not be conquered without the civilian population also suffering considerable damage.

that had to be paid because it was not Germany's own population that overthrew the Nazi regime from within. The responsibility for this high price lies with the Nazi regime. Without hesitation, Germany's own civilian population was sent to certain death, deserting and fleeing German soldiers were shot or hanged in order to prolong their own death throes by a few weeks and days.

For the large-scale "Battle of Berlin", over 1,300 Soviet aircraft were deployed on April 25, bombing Nazi positions without pause to facilitate the advance of the Red Army. The Soviet artillery fired non-stop at Nazi positions throughout the city. The battles took place in squares and streets, block after block of flats had to be liberated from the Nazi hedge guards: the area around Kleistpark, the area around the zoo, Alexanderplatz, separate battles in Wedding and Kreuzberg until the Red Army was finally able to advance towards the Reichstag. S-Bahn and U-Bahn tunnels played an important role in these battles, as did bridges in particular; point after point had to be cleared and conquered by the Red Army from the Nazis. Finally, there was another Advance to the center of the Nazis via Savigny-Platz to the Reichstag. There, floor after floor was conquered by the Red Army and cleared of Nazis, who entrenched themselves in the cellars. The railroad tunnels in particular, where both civilians and Nazi soldiers were located, were the scene of difficult battles. The tunnels had to be cleared piece by piece by the Red Army. The Nazis had barricaded themselves in buildings, deployed snipers and even equipped the so-called "Volkssturm" with tank fists. There were also fierce house-to-house battles in residential areas to ensure the further advance of the Red Army. Especially in the

According to reports, Polish soldiers, some of whom had already fought in the Warsaw Uprising in 1944 and were now part of the Red Army, also distinguished themselves by their military prowess. On April 30, the evening before May 1, 1945, the Soviet flag was raised on the Reichstag building, while the fighting in various parts of Berlin was still not over.

### **After 1945: anti-communist lies to rehabilitate the Nazis**

After 1945, after the capitulation on

On May 8, 1945, the historical lies were circulated that the Red Army had allegedly violated martial law, had even deliberately murdered civilians outside of direct acts of war, and so on. The Nazi regime was not supposed to be responsible for the deaths of German civilians. Lies were told to discredit the Red Army. The fact that the Nazis killed 80.000 Red Army soldiers were killed in the fight to overthrow the Nazi regime and liberate Germany from the Nazis, when the end of the Nazi regime was so close - this is one of the largely unwritten pages of the fight to overthrow the Nazi regime, which must be remembered in the fight against anti-communism, especially today, when the fight to destroy and disarm Hamas is on the agenda.

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## **The Battle for Berlin (April 16 to May 2, 1945)**

The Red Army, which was now fighting on German soil to crush Nazi fascism, was entering decidedly enemy territory. Before the battles for Berlin, Stalin once again made the Red Army soldiers aware that this would by no means be an easy fight, unlike any other European country that had previously been liberated by the Red Army. For now they not only had to deal with a pro-Nazi-fascist government, but also with a largely pro-Nazi-fascist population, which resisted their liberation through chauvinist, racist, anti-Jewish and anti-communist incitement with the Nazi slogan of "Jewish Bolshevism", through subject spirit and not least through fear of being held accountable for their complicity in the Nazi-fascist crimes. resisted:

"Full victory over the Germans is already close. But victory never comes by itself

- It is won through hard fighting and persistent work. The doomed enemy throws the last of his strength into the fight and desperately defends himself in order to escape the severe punishment. He is now resorting to the most extreme and vile means of struggle and will continue to do so. It is therefore important to remember: the nearer our victory, the greater must be our vigilance, the stronger must be our blows against the enemy." (Stalin: Order of the Supreme Commander of February 23, 1945, Works Volume 14, S. 379)

At the same time, Berlin was also the center of power of German imperialism with all the state offices of Nazi fascism. The high command of the Nazi military had its offices in Berlin. Like the other ministries, the Nazi Ministry of Propaganda was also located in Berlin. It was also the largest industrial city in Germany.

AEG, Siemens, Borsig etc. had large production facilities there.

With the support of the population, barricades, anti-tank barriers, minefields, wire entanglements and other obstacles against the Red Army were erected in the streets and bunkers were built! From March 12, 1945, shooting exercises with bazookas for the "Volkssturm" were carried out in all parts of Berlin. From January to March 1945

300,000 young people up to the age of 1929 were conscripted into the Nazi army. Many men, even 10 to 14-year-old boys as well as women and girls, volunteered for "front-line duty". On April 2, 1945, the German population was called upon to support the sniper "werewolves". Many residents allowed the Nazi soldiers to use their homes as defensive positions. On April 22, 1945

non-political prisoners were released and recruited for the Nazi Wehrmacht.

The Red Army men and women had to fight their way through quarter after quarter, house after house, floor after floor, against the unrelenting resistance of the Nazi Wehrmacht, the SS, the "Volkssturm", the "Werwölfe", the HJ and against a Nazi-fascist incited population, which directly or indirectly supported the armed Nazi forces to a large extent.

The Nazis had to fight with enormous losses against an incited Nazi-fascist population, many of whom directly or indirectly supported the armed Nazi forces.

Excerpt from:

### **The War of German Nazi-Fascism against the Socialist Soviet Union (June 1941 - May 1945).**

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