

# RSHA: Reich Security Main Office: Organization, Activities, Personnel

The Reich Security Main Office (RSHA) was the central security organization of Nazi Germany. It was responsible for all aspects of internal security, counter-intelligence, and the Holocaust. The RSHA was commanded by Reinhard Heydrich and operated from 1939 to 1945.



## RSHA Reich Security Main Office: Organisation, Activities, Personnel by Andrew Sardanis

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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## Organization

The RSHA was divided into seven departments, each responsible for a specific area of security:

- **Amt I: Personnel and Administration**
- **Amt II: Organization, Law, and State**
- **Amt III: Security Service (SD)**

- **Amt IV: Gestapo**
- **Amt V: Criminal Police**
- **Amt VI: Foreign Intelligence Service**
- **Amt VII: Economic and Administrative Main Office**

## **Activities**

The RSHA was responsible for a wide range of activities, including:

- **Counter-intelligence**
- **Internal security**
- **Suppression of political dissent**
- **Persecution of Jews and other minorities**
- **Coordination of the Holocaust**

## **Personnel**

The RSHA was staffed by a mix of SS and police officers. The SS officers were responsible for the leadership of the organization, while the police officers provided the manpower. The RSHA was notorious for its brutality and ruthlessness, and its personnel were responsible for some of the most heinous crimes of the Nazi regime.

## **Key Figures**

- **Reinhard Heydrich**: Commander of the RSHA (1939-1942)
- **Ernst Kaltenbrunner**: Commander of the RSHA (1942-1945)
- **Walter Schellenberg**: Head of Amt VI (Foreign Intelligence Service)

- **Heinrich Müller:** Head of Amt IV (Gestapo)
- **Arthur Nebe:** Head of Amt V (Criminal Police)

## Legacy

The RSHA was one of the most powerful and feared organizations in Nazi Germany. Its personnel were responsible for some of the most heinous crimes of the Holocaust, and the organization played a key role in the Nazi regime's persecution of Jews and other minorities. The RSHA was disbanded by the Allies at the end of WWII, but its legacy continues to haunt Germany to this day.

The RSHA was a central pillar of the Nazi security apparatus. It was responsible for a wide range of activities, including counter-intelligence, internal security, and the persecution of Jews and other minorities. The RSHA was staffed by a mix of SS and police officers, and its personnel were notorious for their brutality and ruthlessness. The RSHA's legacy continues to haunt Germany to this day.



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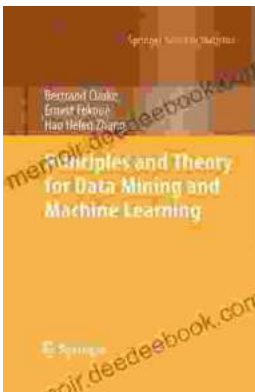
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