

JOHN P. McTERNAN



AS

AMERICA  
— HAS DONE TO —  
ISRAEL



WHITAKER  
HOUSE

All Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version (kjv) of the Holy Bible.

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## AS AMERICA HAS DONE TO ISRAEL

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McT911@aol.com

PO Box 444, Liverpool, PA 17045  
www.defendproclaimthefaith.org  
www.johnmcternan.name

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## **Dedication**

This book is dedicated to the memory of my grandfather,  
John J. Kane, Sr. I learned the love of knowledge, reading,  
and studying from him. He passed away long ago, but  
not too many days go by without my thinking about him,  
and all the memories are wonderful.

## Introduction

Starting in 1987, I first started noticing the direct correlation between massive natural disasters striking America and national events. These events included Gay Pride Day, Supreme Court decisions protecting abortion, and related events. Starting in 1991 with the Madrid Peace Process, I noticed the correlation between massive disasters and the United States pressuring Israel to surrender land for peace. The disasters always occurred within twenty-four hours of the event.

In 1997 I printed my first book, *God's Final Warning to America*, which documented these correlations of disasters and same day events. The national events and the massive destructive disasters, such as earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, and tornado outbreaks, began to number in the dozens. By 2001, the correlation of events was so compelling that I decided to publish a second book focusing solely on Israel. This book is the third in my series that deals with biblical prophecy and current events.

In November 2001, I published *Israel: The Blessing or the Curse*, which dealt exclusively with the United States pressuring Israel to give away sections of its land for peace. The title of that book came from Genesis 12:3: "And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." Genesis 12:3 states that there is a blessing or a curse associated with Abraham and his

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descendants, the Jews. The people who bless Abraham will be blessed, while those who curse Abraham will suffer curses. The Bible says that forcing the Jews to divide the covenant land brings a curse. God will judge nations that interfere with the integrity of Israel's borders.

I felt *Israel: The Blessing or the Curse* did an excellent job of detailing how curses or disasters hit America as the nation pressured Israel to divide the land, but there was also a blessing associated with Genesis 12:3. My book had only covered the curses, not the blessings. Many people questioned me about the blessing part of the verse. I had no examples.

The fact that I had no positive examples of blessings disturbed me. If the negative was true, there should also be blessings for all to see. I pondered this for many years, and finally found the answer in the history of the United States. As I correlated the history of the United States with how the country treated and blessed the Jews, an astounding parallel emerged. God blessed the United States of America at the very time the nation was blessing the Jews! *As America Has Done to Israel* shows this correlation. I go back to 1654, when the Jews first came to America, and work my way forward to today. The blessings are evident.

From its founding, America always blessed the children of Abraham. Unlike in Europe, the Jews never suffered organized persecution in America. For most of American history, the Jews were treated as equal citizens; however, the period from 1920 to 1940 proved an exception. This period was the darkest time in American history for the Jewish people.

This book is also an update to *Israel: The Blessing or the Curse*. In *As America Has Done to Israel*, I fully document the curses or awesome disasters that hit America on the days the nation pressured Israel to divide the land. This book opens in September 1938 with the Great New England Hurricane. It shows how God dealt with America when

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the nation wronged the Jewish people. I arrived at a balance in this book by showing the blessings and the curses.

I chose the name for the book from a Bible verse. The prophet Obadiah wrote of the time we are now living in. He refers to the time of Israel's restoration to the land as the approaching day of the Lord. The day of the Lord begins at the second coming of Jesus Christ. The prophet states that during this time, God deals with any nation in direct relation to how that nation interacts with Israel. If a nation blesses Israel, God blesses that nation. If a nation curses Israel, He curses that nation. It is that simple.

*For the day of the LORD is near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done [to Israel], it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head.*

(Obadiah 1:15, emphasis added)

*As America Has Done to Israel* also touches on biblical prophecy. The key to prophecy is understanding God's plan for Israel. Israel becomes God's anvil among the nations. Israel's ancient prophets clearly laid out the future. I believe we are now on the verge of what the prophets call the day of the Lord, when the holy God of Israel judges the nations for rejecting the Gospel of His Son. It is also the time when God once again turns to His people Israel and all Israel will be spiritually saved at the second coming of Jesus Christ.

My hope in writing this book is that the reader will understand God's prophetic plan and how Israel fits into this plan. I hope the book generates faith in God's Word, the Bible, as well as boldness to stand with Israel. My greatest desire is that the reader will understand that the events involving Israel and Middle East are rushing toward a conclusion. This conclusion will be the greatest event of all time: the second coming of Jesus Christ. My prayer is that every reader will be ready for this event.

## *As America Has Done to Israel*

Through the years, I have spoken with many people about God and the Bible. On a number of occasions, the question was posed, *What proof is there of God?* A similar question asked is, *How do you know the Bible is the Word of God?* There are many ways to answer this question, but I have taken the approach that the authority of the Bible can be proven through the history of the Jewish people and the rebirth of the nation of Israel. The rebirth of Israel is the key.

Understanding why God called the nation of Israel, the history of Israel, and prophecy related to Israel, all show the awesome authority of the Bible as the Word of God. If Israel is understood spiritually and not just politically, an entirely new and exciting reality of the time we live in unravels.

We are now living in the time that the ancient Jewish prophets wrote about. The nation of Israel has been reborn and Jerusalem is once again its capital. The reality of God and the Bible then can be proven through the fulfillment of what the Bible states about the nation of Israel. What an awesome concept this is—biblical prophecy is alive before our eyes!

The rebirth of the nation of Israel is unique among all the nations in history. The entire nation was destroyed—not once, but twice. Amazingly, after each devastation it came back into existence. Not only was the nation destroyed twice, but both times the vast majority of the people were taken captive into foreign countries. Yet the Jewish people always returned to the land. All this points to the uniqueness of Israel. This nation is not like other nations.

In 586 BC, the great Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar totally destroyed the nation, Jerusalem, and the temple. This destruction resulted in nearly all the Jews being taken captive to Babylon. When a people were taken captive as the Jews were, they were usually lost to history. The Jewish people were different. They remained in Babylon for seventy years and then returned to rebuild Jerusalem and their temple. This occurred 2,540 years ago.

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The Romans again destroyed the nation, the city of Jerusalem, and the temple some 650 years later in 70 AD. In 136 AD, the Jews again revolted against Rome. They were totally defeated and suffered the final dispersion into all the world. Very few Jews remained on the land after this war with Rome. The devastation was catastrophic. This occurred almost nineteen hundred years ago.

Israel should have ended as a nation and probably as a people in 586 BC, but it survived. Israel definitely should have ceased to be a nation in 70 AD, but as the ancient prophets wrote, the nation was literally reborn.

After ceasing to be a nation for 1878 years, Israel once again became a nation on May 14, 1948. In June 1967, Jerusalem once again became the unified capital of Israel. The Hebrew language was almost extinct, yet it was revived; today, the Israelis speak Hebrew—the same language as their ancestors. They kept the same religion while in exile. There is simply no other nation like Israel.

Several years ago, I took a tour of the biblical sites in Israel. The tour stopped at the museum of the Dead Sea Scrolls. In the center of the building was a large, circular glass cabinet in which the complete Isaiah scroll was on display. The scroll was set in the cabinet and illuminated so it could be read.

I asked the Israeli tour guide if he could read the scroll. He went to the scroll and started to read a two thousand-year-old document written in ancient Hebrew. He said it was somewhat hard to read because the letters were shaped slightly differently in modern Hebrew. As he started to read the scroll, I realized it was Isaiah chapter 59. I had him read back in the scroll until he found Isaiah 53. (The Bible was not divided into chapters until the 1500s.) This chapter is one of my favorites in the Bible. To my amazement, he read this chapter to me.

A man whose nation was destroyed nineteen hundred years ago read to me a language that was nearly extinct! The English language did

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not exist two thousand years ago. It is not easy to read English from only two hundred years ago, let alone two thousand years ago.

What other nation is like Israel? What is the explanation for the preservation of the Jews and the rebirth of Israel? The explanation is found in the everlasting covenant God made with Abraham four thousand years ago. That covenant is the reason the Jewish people and the nation of Israel exist today.

## Preface

When I was growing up on Long Island, New York, in the 1950s and 60s, I was raised for the most part by my grandparents, John and Elizabeth Kane. My parents named me John after Grandpa Kane. He was born in Ireland and came to the United States around 1912. My grandfather was a big, strong man. Early in his life, he worked in various mines and developed a powerful build. I can still see his huge hands.

Grandpa had no formal education, but he was highly intelligent. He seemed to know everything about everything. As a youngster, I can remember him building our house with his friends. He built the house with his own hands, block by block! Grandpa was always reading in his spare time. He would read magazines, newspapers, journals, and books. He read all the time.

The Irish have a reputation for storytelling and my grandfather was no exception. My earliest memories are sitting near him and listening as he told me about Ireland and his early life in the United States, now about one hundred years ago. I heard about World War I, the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, the rise of Hitler, and World War II. I vividly remember him telling me about participating in forming unions in the mines of Colorado and the horrors that followed. Many miners died in a conflict that erupted over the unionizing of the mines.

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We always seemed to have company. Our door was always open and my grandparents' friends, neighbors, and relatives would just drop in to visit. We watched very little TV in those days, and soon after the company arrived, the storytelling started. When the men talked, I would just sit and listen. No one ever said I could not ask questions, but it just seemed out of place to ask. They talked about anything and everything. I was getting an education in history, politics, and life, and did not even realize it.

Most of the talk was about world and national events. When the talks would get around to local events, the two hot topics were the

Great Hurricane of 1938, which devastated Long Island, and the German-American Alliance. The name for this Alliance was the Bund (pronounced "Bundt"), the Nazi organization in the United States. Its headquarters were in New York City and later at Camp Siegfried on Long Island, less than ten miles from where I grew up.



***Grandpa with "Johnny Mac," as he called me***

Everyone had harrowing experiences to share about the hurricane, and the stories were vivid with great detail. When I first heard about the hurricane, I was not old enough to fully reason. I can remember being afraid at the beach because a hurricane might come.

My family would go to Jones Beach State Park, which was nothing more than a sandbar off the coast of Long Island. At the beach, I was

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ever watchful of the ocean and ready to flee should another great hurricane appear. Relaxing was impossible, and I carefully watched the horizon while at the beach. I finally talked my mother in taking me to the other side of the sandbar to a beach called Zach's Bay. I felt comfortable when not facing the ocean. I never told anyone my fears.

I also heard frightening stories about the Bund. The stories detailed Nazi activities on Long Island. There were the candlelight marches at night. The Bundists dressed their children in Nazi uniforms and walked around the towns, "sieg heil-ing" each other. There were huge gatherings at Camp Siegfried where tens of thousands would congregate. This was all very confusing to me because I heard the stories of how terrible the Nazis were and how the United States fought them in World War II.

One year my grandparents bought me a Lionel train set for Christmas. I loved that train set, but one day the engine stopped running. Grandpa called around and finally located a hobby repair shop. He called for directions, and I was standing next to him listening. To my horror, I heard the word "Yaphank." I remembered

*Photo Credit: Jacob Rader Marcus Center, American Jewish Archives, Hebrew Union College*



*Nazi youth at Camp Siegfried, 1937*

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stories about the Bund in Yaphank, and I was afraid. I thought the Bund was still active.

The time came to go, and I got into Grandpa's 1948 Plymouth. He said nothing about Yaphank, which seemed strange to me. I was concerned because of the Bund, although I still wanted to see youngsters like me dressed as Nazis. I kept asking Grandpa if we were in Yaphank, and finally he told me that we were. With my train engine sitting on my lap, I looked all around for Nazis but did not see one. I stayed very close to him when we left the car and walked into the repair shop. The repair man did fix the engine. I never told Grandpa I was afraid of the Bund.

In all my years of college and study, I never heard of the Bund activities outside my grandfather's house. After World War II, the Nazi activity in the United States was swept under the rug and scarcely mentioned again. I grew up in the 1950s only ten miles from the Nazi headquarters in America and never heard one word of it mentioned by others. I only heard about it through Grandpa Kane.

*As America Has Done to Israel* is the sequel to my book, *Israel: The Blessing or the Curse*. When I first wrote *Israel: The Blessing or the Curse*, I made no connection between the Bund and the Great Hurricane of 1938. As you read this book, you will see a truly amazing connection.

I had not thought of the Bund for over forty-five years, but one day in 2004 I was thinking of all the hurricane disasters recorded in *Israel: The Blessing or the Curse*. My mind drifted back to those memories about the Great Hurricane of 1938, and in a flash God quickened my mind to connect it with the Bund. All those stories I heard at Grandpa Kane's came to life forty-five years later and now are a part of this book.

Writing this book brought back long forgotten but wonderful memories of my grandparents. One of these memories is worth sharing. My grandparents were good people. I grew up without any prejudice. They seemed to love all people.

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My grandparents taught me to respect the Jewish people. Before moving to Long Island, New York, we lived in an Irish-Jewish ghetto in the Bronx, New York City. I heard lots of stories about my grandparents' life with the Jewish people in the ghetto. Actually, I was born in the ghetto, but we moved out when I was very young.

My grandmother told me she was good friends with a Jewish seamstress, who made clothes for our family. One day there was a banging on the door, and when my grandmother opened it, the woman was lying, hysterical, on the floor. My grandfather came and carried her into the apartment. The woman was sobbing, saying, "Hitler got them all," over and over again.

She was from Poland and had just learned that the Nazis had eliminated her entire family back home. Grandpa stayed with her until her husband came home. Grandma said the woman lived only a month or so after that day and died of a broken heart.

I hope this book is a blessing to all who read it. The facts reported in this book are irrefutable, but my interpretations of these facts are open to question. I interpret these facts through the Bible. God said of Abraham and the Jewish people in Genesis 12:3, "*I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.*" This book proves the promise is to be taken literally.

You will see from this book that Genesis 12:3 has been applied to the United States. The Bible is to be taken literally. The Jewish people and the nation of Israel are living proof of the authority of the Bible.

I always wanted to be like Grandpa Kane. He had such great knowledge and loved to share with those who would listen. He was always reading. I read a lot and love to talk, so maybe a part of Grandpa rubbed off on me. Grandma often said, "You are just like your grandfather." I sure hope she was right.

-John McTernan



PART ONE:  
ISRAEL'S PAST AND  
PRESENT



## CHAPTER ONE

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### Hitler and the Hurricane: September 1938

*For the day of the LORD is near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done [to the Jews], it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head.* (Obadiah 1:15)

September 1938 was a critical month in world history. The eyes of the entire world, including the United States, were riveted on Europe. Hitler was on the move and there was talk of imminent war. For the entire month, the headlines in the nation's newspapers followed the events in Europe. As one reads these newspapers, the feeling of desperation still screams from the headlines. Even after seventy years, the tension is still easily felt.

The source of all this tension was Nazi Germany and the Republic of Czechoslovakia. Hitler wanted to annex a section of Czechoslovakia called the Sudetenland, comprised mostly of ethnic Germans, as part of Germany. Hitler made the false claim that the Czechs were mistreating the ethnic Germans, who needed the protection of Germany.

The Nazi propaganda machine began to threaten imminent war unless the Czechs surrendered the Sudetenland to Germany. President

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Edvard Beneš of Czechoslovakia appealed to Great Britain and France for help, and thus the prospect of war loomed greater and greater each day.

Hitler came to power in January 1933. By September 1938, the Nazi war machine was in high gear. The Nazi army was gaining power, and Hitler was now ready to test the will of Great Britain, France, and the rest of the world.

Hitler had consolidated his power in Germany and was looking beyond its borders. In early March 1938, he forced Austrian Chancellor Kurt Schuschnigg to resign. Dr. Arthur Seyss-Inquart, a Nazi puppet, replaced Schuschnigg. On March 12, 1938, the Nazi army crossed into Austria. Hitler achieved his Anschluss: the union of Austria and Germany.

No nation objected to what Hitler did to Austria. Then, six months later, he wanted the Sudetenland and tested the will of Europe by threatening war. Little did the nations realize that this would be their last opportunity to stop Hitler before total war broke out.

Czechoslovakia was willing to resist the Nazis, but could not do so alone. The nation had a large, well trained 1.5 million-man army and could have defeated Hitler with help. Czechoslovakia's appeal fell on deaf ears; not one Western nation, including the United States, came to its aid. Anyone who stood with Czechoslovakia against Hitler was branded a warmonger. Whoever went along with the division of Czechoslovakia and appeasing Hitler was looked upon as favoring peace.

With the hindsight of history, it is chilling to read the newspapers of September 1938. Day after day, the papers were full of headlines about the Nazis, Czechoslovakia, and war. One could feel the tension as it mounted to a climax on September 29 at the Munich Conference. At this conference, Britain and France betrayed Czechoslovakia and

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appeased Hitler by agreeing to all his demands. The Munich Conference resulted in the dismantling of Czechoslovakia.

The following are just a few examples of the September 1938 front-page headlines that gripped the United States:

September 15, *New York Times*:

- ♦ Chamberlain Off by Plane to See Hitler
- ♦ Will Make Personal Plea to Avert War
- ♦ Prague Firm as Sudetens Battle the Police

September 19, *New York Times*:

- ♦ Britain and France Accept Hitler Demands on Czechs
- ♦ Will Ask Beneš Today to Surrender German Areas
- ♦ Prague Incredulous, Regards Action as Betrayal
- ♦ Roosevelt Urged to Act in Europe

September 21, *New York Times*:

- ♦ Britain, France Give Prague Hours to Submit
- ♦ On the Peril of Immediate German Attack
- ♦ Czechs Are Declared Determined to Resist

September 24, *The Providence, Rhode Island, Evening Bulletin*:

- ♦ European Armies Mobilizing
- ♦ Hitler Reported Ordering Czechs to Yield in One Week

September 26, *New York Times*:

- ♦ Roosevelt Appeals to Hitler and Beneš to Negotiate
- ♦ British and French Premiers Also Plea to Reich
- ♦ Terms Unacceptable; Hitler Talk to Attack Czechs

September 28, *New York Herald Tribune*:

- ♦ Roosevelt Appeals Anew to Hitler Against War
- ♦ Proposes Conference of All Involved in Europe
- ♦ British Mobilize Navy, Chamberlain's Hope Faint

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September 30, *New York Times*:

- Four Powers Reach a Peaceable Agreement
- Germans to Enter Sudeten Area Tomorrow and Will Complete Occupation in Ten Days
- Nazi Demands Met

Great Britain, France, Italy, and Germany sent representatives to the Munich Conference. Czechoslovakia, the subject of this conference, was not represented! The country being divided to appease Hitler had no say in the matter.

Without the support of Great Britain and France, the Czechs had no alternative but to agree to Hitler's demands. At the conclusion of the Munich Conference, the Czech Premier Jan Syrovy stated, "We have been abandoned."<sup>1</sup> By March 15, 1939, whatever remained of Czechoslovakia fell under Hitler's control. In six short months, Hitler gained the rest of the country. It was clear to Hitler that the European nations had no will to stop him. Hitler's road to European and world conquest was now wide open.

Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain represented Great Britain at the Munich Conference. Chamberlain boasted after the Munich Conference that he achieved "Peace in our time," and "Peace with honor."<sup>2</sup> There was even a newsreel of Chamberlain disembarking a plane after returning from the Conference. In the newsreel, he is waving the treaty with Hitler in the air and saying, "Peace in our time." Huge crowds of excited people met Chamberlain when he returned to Great Britain.

These crowds lined the route Chamberlain traveled from the airport to London. He made a speech about "Peace with Honor," telling the crowd, "A British prime minister has returned from Germany bringing peace with honor." The crowd cheered him wildly all the way back to London.

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*Photo Credit: Hulton-Deutsch Collection/Corbis*



*Neville Chamberlain with Munich Agreement in hand,  
saying, "Peace in our time."*

Looking back to the Munich Conference, it is almost comical from today's standpoint—except that millions soon died. A side issue of the Conference was the “Anti-War Pact” between Hitler and Chamberlain.<sup>3</sup> The Pact called for Germany to demobilize when Hitler was convinced the Czechoslovakian government was carrying out the agreements of the Munich Conference. Chamberlain made a statement about the agreement with Hitler that is truly tragic:

We regard the agreement signed last night and the Anglo-German naval agreement as symbolic of the desire of our two peoples never to go to war with another again.

The world looked to the United States and President Franklin Delano Roosevelt for leadership in this crisis to avert possible war. On September 19, the *New York Times* reported the desperation of nations

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to prevent war in a front page article titled “Roosevelt Urged to Act in Europe.” This article quoted an editorial from the Canadian newspaper, *Toronto Globe*, and several French newspapers. The *Globe* editorial titled the Czechoslovakian crisis, “Europe still waits in the shadow of Armageddon.” It went on to state that only President Roosevelt had the leadership to end this crisis. An excerpt from this editorial follows:

What is needed is not a plan, but fresh leadership....  
There is but one man whom the world, if it could speak,  
would elect for the task. A man universally known for his  
humanitarianism...President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The *New York Times* article went on to quote former French Premier Leon Blum. Blum wrote in the French newspaper *Populaire*, openly requesting that President Roosevelt intervene in this crisis. The French wanted Roosevelt to intervene and save France, just as President Woodrow Wilson had done during World War I. A translated quotation from the former French Premier follows:

Is it not time that he address himself to Europe with the  
prestige of his person and with all the authority of the  
State whose moral or material support would be finally  
decisive in any general war?

Roosevelt did personally intervene and requested a conference addressing the Czechoslovakian problem. President Roosevelt made two direct appeals to Adolf Hitler. The first was on September 26 and the second on September 28. These requests called for negotiations and a peaceful solution to the crisis. Hitler and the other European leaders responded to the second appeal, and the Munich Conference was set for the following day. A part of the president’s appeal to Hitler follows:

Should you agree to a solution in this peaceful manner,  
I am convinced that hundreds of millions throughout

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the world would recognize your actions as an outstanding historic service to all humanity.<sup>4</sup>

President Roosevelt was a party to this appeasement of Hitler as he failed to stand with Czechoslovakia. He failed to confront Hitler and instead called for negotiations to end the crisis. Of course, these negotiations meant the dismantling of Czechoslovakia.

The Munich Conference was the idea of President Roosevelt. Afterwards, Roosevelt failed to comment on the results of the Munich Conference. Secretary of State Cordell Hull said there was a “universal sense of relief” over the peace settlement.

By September 1938, Hitler’s attacks on the Jewish people were well known. The very core of the Nazi ideology was the destruction of European Jewry. The Nazis were not secretly carrying out this hatred of the Jews. President Roosevelt was well aware of what the Nazis were doing to the Jews. Surrendering the Sudetenland to Hitler would put thousands of Jews in grave danger. But no one seemed to care what the Nazis were doing to Jews. It was as if the Jews did not exist, and what the Nazis were doing to them did not matter.

The Nazis even tried blaming the Jews for the trouble over the Sudetenland. The Nazis created the tension and then shifted blame to the Jews. Hermann Goering, the second-highest ranking Nazi, used this tactic in a vicious speech given on September 10, 1938. In his speech, Goering stated:

This miserable pygmy race without culture, no one knows where it came from, is oppressing a cultured people [Sudeten Germans] and behind it is Moscow and the eternal mask of the Jew devil.<sup>5</sup>

By appeasing Hitler, the American president was indirectly condoning Hitler’s conduct against the Jews. Roosevelt’s failure to confront

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Hitler about the brutality of his regime, paired with appeasement over the Sudetenland, encouraged Hitler to continue his course of destruction.

The nations cared little about the Jews and none came to their aid. They allowed Hitler to attack the Jews with virtually no opposition. On November 8, 1938, just thirty-eight days after the Munich Conference, the Nazis launched what became known as Krystelnacht, or the “night of broken glass.” Krystelnacht was the night when the rhetoric against the Jews turned into organized violence and destruction of Jewish businesses throughout Germany. The Munich Conference turned out to be a boost for Hitler’s Jew-hating agenda. When World War II started, he then attempted to destroy all European Jewry.

The negotiations at the Munich Conference started the dismantling of the Republic of Czechoslovakia. The nations allowed Germany to annex the Sudetenland. Poland obtained the Teschen district while Hungary received the remaining parts of Slovakia. It is truly ironic that Poland was greedy and aided in the dismantling of Czechoslovakia. In a very short time, Hitler dismantled Poland—not with a conference, but with war. Poland suffered greatly for failing to stand against Hitler.

Thus, to appease Hitler, Great Britain and France dismantled a sovereign nation and divided it into three sections. Now, with the Sudetenland, Hitler solidified Germany and gained a powerful industrial base. He was ready to turn east toward Poland and ignite World War II.

The fuse to spark World War II was lit on September 29, 1938. The Nazi army was becoming more and more powerful by the day. Hitler was honing the German war machine. This war resulted in the death of thirty to forty million people, including over six million Jews.

The countdown from the Munich Conference to the start of World War II was a mere 335 days. Hitler attacked Poland on September 1, 1939, igniting World War II. September 1938 was undoubtedly a critical month in world history.

# Hitler and the Hurricane

## September 1938: The Long Island Express

If New York and the rest of the world have been so well informed about the cyclone it is because of an admirably organized meteorological service.

(*New York Times* editorial entitled  
“Hurricanes,” September 21, 1938)

From reading the September 1938 headlines, it is easy to understand why the United States public focused on Europe. The entire nation was caught up in the specter of another world war. People were glued to the radio, trying to get news about a possible war in Europe.

As terrible as Hitler was, an even greater immediate danger was headed directly toward the United States. A powerful category-five hurricane, or as it was called then, a Cape Verde Cyclone, was heading directly toward Florida. Hurricanes were called Cape Verde Cyclones because they developed near the Cape Verde Islands off the west coast of Africa. These storms then moved on a westward course toward the United States.

In early September, a tropical depression formed off the coast of Africa near Cape Verde. By September 10, it was a tropical depression, gaining power by the hour. It was heading west at about ten miles an hour. On September 18, it was near Puerto Rico and had grown to a monster category-five storm.<sup>6</sup>

In 1938, the Weather Bureau did not name hurricanes. If a storm hit land, or fell on a holiday, it was named for the location or date the eye made landfall. An example was the Galveston Hurricane of 1900. It was not until 1951 that the Weather Bureau named hurricanes. This hurricane was named the Great New England Hurricane of 1938 or the Great Hurricane of 1938. Its effect on the Northeast coast is still visible to this day.

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Category-five hurricanes are among the most powerful and destructive forces in nature. These hurricanes sustain winds of 155 miles per hour or greater with an enormous wave surge as they come ashore. Since 1851, only three category-five hurricanes have hit the United States mainland. These three were Andrew in 1992, Camille in 1969, and the Florida Keys Hurricane of 1935.

In 1870, the United States created a national weather monitoring agency called the United States Weather Bureau. By 1938, the United States Weather Bureau had developed a hurricane monitoring system. There were hurricane monitoring stations throughout the Caribbean, and ships at sea radioed information about these storms. During September 1938, the Weather Bureau was closely monitoring all information about this extremely powerful hurricane.

On September 19, the storm was four hundred miles in diameter and still heading directly toward Florida. The entire state panicked as the storm grew closer. The storm began weakening to a category-three, then curved away from Florida and headed north. After the storm turned, the media and the nation had little interest and focused back on Europe and Hitler. A category-three is still a very lethal storm. These storms pack winds between 111 and 130 miles per hour, and can do enormous damage.

This curving movement was typical of most Cape Verde Hurricanes. As they approached the United States, the prevailing winds began to curve the hurricane northward. The hurricane then began a looping move, first to the north and then eastward out into the Atlantic Ocean. A hurricane depends on warm water—at least eighty degrees Fahrenheit—to maintain its power. Once over the colder ocean waters, these storms soon lose power and die.

On September 21, as the hurricane turned northward, Charles Pierce, a junior meteorologist with the Weather Bureau in Washington,

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D.C., tracked the storm. He carefully reviewed the weather charts and immediately recognized the danger this storm posed for Long Island, New York, and southern New England.

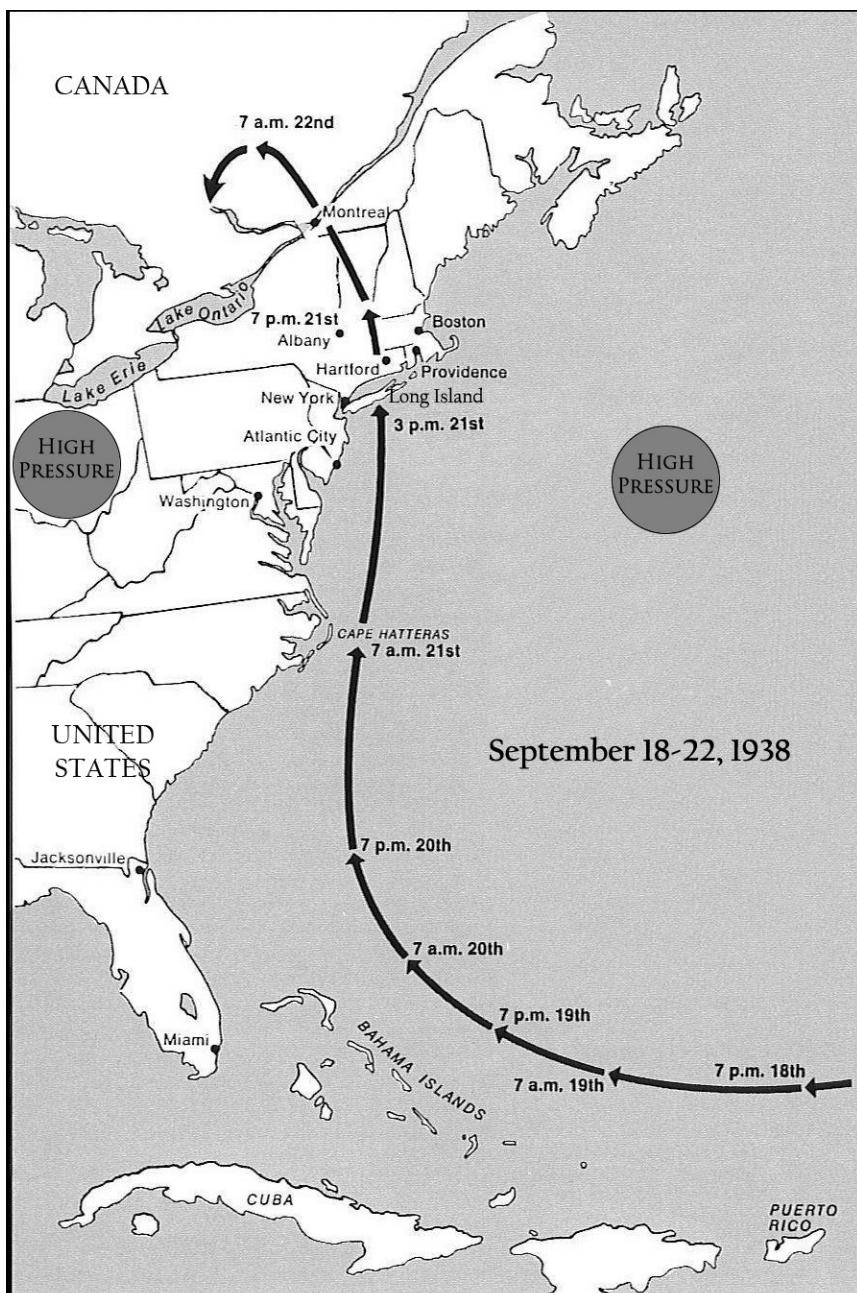
There were two powerful high-pressure systems that had the hurricane trapped between them. The hurricane could not curve eastward and out to sea because the Bermuda high pressure over the Atlantic Ocean was far to the north. This blocked the hurricane from making the eastward curve and turning harmlessly out into the Atlantic Ocean. The hurricane could not turn west because there was a powerful high-pressure system over Ohio. There was a strong low system over New England which would draw the hurricane to it like a magnet. The high-pressure systems forced this powerful hurricane on a direct northerly course. Long Island and southern New England were the targets.

Pierce explained all this to his superiors, but they refused to heed his assessment. The last major hurricane to hit New England was in 1815, and before that 1635. Category-three hurricanes hitting New England were extremely rare. Pierce was overruled by his superiors, who believed the hurricane would turn out to sea. In desperation, Pierce held a second meeting and was overruled again.

At 7:00 a.m. on September 21, the Great Hurricane was off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. Hurricanes normally weaken north of this location because of the colder water. But this hurricane accelerated, followed the Gulf Stream, and failed to weaken. The two high-pressure systems squeezed the hurricane, causing it to tighten and accelerate. Both the tightening and accelerating greatly magnified the power of this storm.

Most hurricanes travel at less than twenty miles per hour. The winds within the hurricane can be swirling at great speed, but the storm itself moves less than twenty miles per hour. Picture the way a top spins,

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*Map of the Great Hurricane*

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and you can understand a hurricane. The top itself spins very fast while it may be moving slowly along the floor. The Great Hurricane of 1938 began to rapidly increase in forward speed and approached seventy miles per hour—a record to this day.

The Weather Bureau advised the Coast Guard that the hurricane was turning out to sea, and to expect strong winds and high seas along the coast. The Coast Guard then notified the news services, who informed the public that the storm was turning away from the coast and out to sea.

The Great Hurricane of 1938 was bearing down on Long Island at seventy miles per hour and no one knew it was approaching. The only person in the entire nation that knew its true course was Charles Pierce, and no one believed him. The nation was watching Hitler in Europe and not the hurricane in the Atlantic Ocean. Everyone believed it had turned out to sea.

The meteorological equivalent of the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, which occurred three years later, was bearing down on the east coast of the United States. No one was prepared for this storm. The storm would stretch from New Jersey in the west to Boston in the east. The eye of the storm was fifty miles wide; it was a monster.

The summer of 1938 was extremely wet in New England. In the weeks prior to the hurricane, Long Island and New England received record rains. There were torrential rains the week before September 21, and the ground from Long Island to Vermont was soaked, making trees unable to withstand hurricane-force winds.

The weather was also abnormally warm. A hurricane normally weakens quickly upon landfall, but the weeks of rain had resulted in soaked, moist land that actually caused the hurricane to gain strength. This made the Great Hurricane of 1938 incredibly powerful for miles

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inland. The eye remained intact well into southern Vermont. The storm also approached at the worst possible time. September 21 was the autumnal equinox, which created the highest high tide of the year. The storm surge rode on top of this high tide.

Blue Hill Observatory in Massachusetts, which was miles inland, recorded sustained winds of 121 miles per hour with gusts up to 186 miles per hour. Boston Airport registered winds of one hundred miles per hour. This massive hurricane affected the entire New England region. The hurricane maintained its strength well into Canada and finally dissipated near Montreal.

As the winds began to increase, no one paid attention on Long Island or the New England coast. By 3:00 p.m., something was radically wrong. The wind and waves on the ocean were fierce. To the south of Long Island there appeared to be a fog or mist on the ocean, but this was no fog. It was a 25- to 30-foot wall of water (called a storm surge) hurtling forward at seventy miles per hour and heading straight for the Long Island coast. Because this hurricane was moving so fast, it was nicknamed the Long Island Express.

The hurricane hit Long Island with such force that it registered on seismographs from New York to Alaska.<sup>7</sup> So many waves were hitting the coast that New England was vibrating and ringing like a bell! The coastline was dramatically altered by this collision with the powerful storm surge. Not only was Long Island's coastline altered, but all of southern New England's as well.

The storm killed more than seven hundred people. It is a wonder, when reading the accounts of the storm, that the loss of life was not ten times greater. There were sixty-three thousand people left homeless. The storm destroyed or damaged almost nine thousand buildings and over twenty-six thousand automobiles. The storm surge wiped out entire marinas together with thirty-three hundred boats and ships, and

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it destroyed most of New England's fishing fleet. Many New England rivers were already at flood stage, and the rains of the hurricane caused record flooding.

The combination of the tremendous velocity of the winds and the soggy ground resulted in the destruction of entire forests throughout New England. Most of the trees that survived the storm died within a few weeks due to the salt spray that had saturated their leaves. Large sections of the beautiful New England forests were gone. The fierce wind destroyed an estimated 750 million to two billion trees!

The Blue Hill Observatory recorded the highest wind gusts of 186 miles per hour. This observatory was 130 miles from the Long Island coast! The states of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine all felt the effects of this hurricane. Hundreds and hundreds of miles of coast line were damaged. Providence, Rhode Island, was under fourteen feet of water. People drowned as they left work because they had no prior warning that the hurricane was coming upon them.

The floods cut road and rail lines, and bridges washed away. The millions of fallen trees took down most of the power and telephone lines. Cities and towns were isolated and destroyed without warning. The hurricane traveled so fast that it was impossible to send warnings ahead.<sup>8</sup>

This was the first time that an entire region of the nation was devastated by a disaster. The Galveston Hurricane of 1900 killed more people, but only in that city. The San Francisco Earthquake and Fire of 1906 destroyed more buildings, but the massive destruction was limited to that city. This disaster destroyed multiple states. To help these states recover, the federal government rushed in an army of 110,000 workers. This was a massive recovery operation, the likes of which the United States had never witnessed before this hurricane.

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The nation's newspapers before September 21 were fixed on Hitler and events in Europe. Now the Great Hurricane of 1938 shared the front page headlines. Some of these headlines follow:

### *September 22, New York Times:*

Hurricane Sweeps Coast;	Czechoslovakia Decides to Give Up
11 Dead, 71 Missing, LI Toll;	Crowds Protest, Cabinet in Peril
80 Die in New England Flood;	Chamberlain to Demand Guarantees
Storm Batters All New England;	
Providence Hit by Tidal Wave	

### *September 23, New York Herald Tribune:*

Hurricane Deaths Mount to 439;	Berlin Says Czechs Kill 16 at Border
Half of Them in Rhode Island;	Chamberlain Sees Hitler, Urges Calm
L.I. South Shore Is Devastated	

### *September 24, The Evening Bulletin, Providence, Rhode Island:*

Toll of Hurricane Reaches 300;	European Armies Mobilizing
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### *September 25, The Providence Sunday Journal:*

251 Dead; State Pushes Recovery;	Hitler Gives Czechs 7 Days to Bow
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It was impossible to miss these two awesome events when reading the newspapers or listening to the radio. They were linked together on the front page of every newspaper in the nation. Encouraged by the United States, Hitler was allowed to annex part of Czechoslovakia. This happened at the exact time one of the greatest disasters ever to hit the United States occurred.

At first glance, it might appear that these events were not related and that it was all just a coincidence. This was not a coincidence, but the fulfillment of a promise in the Bible. God told Abraham and his descendants in Genesis 12:3 that He would bless those who blessed them and curse those who cursed them.

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The United States turned its back on the Jewish people and an awesome tragedy occurred, starting a pattern that continues until this day. There are literally dozens of examples like the Great Hurricane of 1938 where disasters strike America on the very day the United States meddles with God's covenant land of Israel. This concept is fully developed with numerous examples later in the book.

The hurricane was four hundred miles in diameter and the eye was fifty miles wide. The epicenter of the eye of this massive hurricane hit Bellport, Long Island,<sup>9</sup> where the lowest barometric pressure of the storm was recorded—an incredibly low reading of 27.94. This low pressure shows that Bellport was ground zero, where the eye of The Great Hurricane of 1938 made landfall with the greatest force.

The town immediately north of Bellport is Yaphank. This town played a key role in the connection between the disaster and the Nazis. Located in Yaphank, Long Island, was Camp Siegfried, the direct link to Hitler and the Nazis. Yaphank became a major center for the Nazi movement in the United States.

### Camp Siegfried

Siegfried: a legendary hero in medieval German literature. He killed a dragon and bathed in its blood, which made his body invulnerable.

The 1930s were a turbulent decade in American history. The Great Depression and the tragedy of the Midwest Dust Bowl received most of the attention during these years, but the social and political unrest was just as difficult. The very soul of America was being tested. For most people, life was hard in every way during the 1930s.

Looking over the span of American history, the 1930s were the worst years for the Jews in America. During this turbulent time, the

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seemingly ingrained European hatred for the children of Israel tried taking root in the United States. A certain segment of America singled out the Jews as a people and blamed them for all the world's problems. Some Americans blamed the Jews for causing the Great Depression and creating communism.

There was a concerted effort to exclude Jews from mainstream America and demonize them. This is exactly what Hitler had done to the Jews in Germany and Europe. Once the Jews were marginalized and demonized, the nation was ready to accept physical attacks against them. This was the fertile ground in which the Holocaust could take place.

During the 1930s, the process of trying to destroy Jews was in high gear in the United States. This had been routinely done in Europe through the ages, but not in the United States. The Jews did suffer in America during the 1930s, although the hatred directed at them never rose to the level it had in Europe.

The actual foundation for the attacks on the Jews began shortly after World War I. The great industrialist Henry Ford of Ford Motor Company was a catalyst for this hatred. Convinced that the Jews had started World War I and the Russian Revolution, Ford believed that communism was a Jewish plot to destabilize nations and take over the world.<sup>10</sup> This is not well known today, but Ford was at the very center of marginalizing and demonizing the Jews in the early 1920s. His legacy was not continued by his son and grandson, however; they reversed the anti-Semitism of Henry Ford Sr.

In 1920, Ford bought the *Dearborn Independent*, a small newspaper, to act as his propaganda outlet. On May 22, 1920, Ford began his attack on the Jews. The headline of the paper read, "The International Jew: The World's Foremost Problem." This was the greatest and most damaging public attack on the Jewish people in American history. The effect of Ford's anti-Semitism is still felt today.

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By 1924 the *Dearborn Independent* had 700,000 subscribers, making it one of the largest papers in the country. Ford was trusted by the majority of Americans and was looked upon as a great American. His attack poisoned the atmosphere in America against the Jewish people. The type of anti-Semitism established in Europe now had a powerful voice in the United States.<sup>11</sup>

Many public figures were alarmed by what Ford was doing and denounced both him and his newspaper. Numerous senators, congressmen, lawyers, and clergy denounced Ford. Presidents William Taft, Woodrow Wilson, and Warren Harding all publicly denounced this wave of anti-Semitism. Evangeline Booth, the head of the Salvation Army, also denounced the attacks on the Jewish people.

Perhaps the greatest damage Ford did was achieved by publishing a four-volume book titled *The International Jew: The World's Foremost Problem*. This book sold millions of copies and was translated into sixteen languages. It was translated into German and had a great effect on Hitler and the Nazis, selling millions of copies in Germany. In August 1938, Ford was decorated by the German government for his service to world industrialism.

By 1939, the assault on the Jews had reached its peak. There were dozens of anti-Semitic groups in America verbally attacking the Jews with methods similar to those used by Hitler. One such leader was Father Coughlin, a radio talk show host from Detroit, who had a huge audience of listeners. It was estimated that one-third of all radio listeners tuned in to hear him. His weekly magazine, *Social Justice*, followed the agenda of his radio show.

William Dudley Pelley headed the Silver Shirts, a pro-Nazi group. Robert Edmondson published the *American Vigilante Bulletin*, while James True published the *Dope Letter*. All were anti-Jewish and blamed virtually every problem on the Jews. These are just a few of the

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*Photo Credit: Bettmann/Corbis*



*Henry Ford receives the highest Nazi award given to a foreigner, the Grand Cross of the German Eagle. Karl Kapp, German consul Cleveland, presents the award, while Fritz Heller, German consul Detroit, shakes Ford's hand. July 31, 1938.*

groups that formed to identify the Jews as the cause of all the world's problems.

Of all the anti-Semitic groups of the 1930s, one stands out above the others. It was officially called the German-American National Alliance, but was more commonly known by its German name, the Bund (pronounced "Bundt"). The core of the Bund was mostly made up of German immigrants. This was the true Nazi party in the United States.

The Bund identified openly with Hitler. The Bundists marched in Nazi uniforms with swastikas. They called for a boycott of Jewish businesses, and followed Henry Ford by blaming all evil on international Judaism. They promoted an extremely anti-Semitic book titled *The*

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*Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, which was produced in Russia and espoused fraudulent information. They did everything possible to attack the Jews.

The Bund made its beliefs very clear. They published what was titled *The Bund Declaration of Principles*,<sup>12</sup> an excerpt of which follows:

1. A socially just, white, Gentile-ruled United States.
2. Gentile-controlled labor unions free from Jewish, Moscow-directed domination.
3. Gentiles in all positions of importance in government, national defense, and educational institutions.
4. Immediate cessation of the dumping of all political refugees on the shores of the United States. (This meant no more Jews allowed into the country.)

The Bundists were serious Nazis and focused on the Jews. They went so far as to begin a petition to amend the Constitution of the United States. They wanted Jews excluded from all governmental functions. This petition follows in part:

A petition for an amendment to the constitution of the United States, to elect and appoint none but Aryans to Public Office and Supreme, Federal, State, and Municipal Courts. The United States of America is a White Gentile Nation. The founders of the republic who gave us our nation were Aryan men.<sup>13</sup>

By the end of 1938, the Bund had sixty-five chapters across America with twenty-eight camps. The chapters were located in cities that included New York City, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Oakland, and San Diego. The membership was never known, but estimates run as high as two hundred and fifty thousand.<sup>14</sup>

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The Bund bought land near cities and established camps. They conducted parades, speeches, events, and marched just like the Nazis did in Germany. The major camps were Nordland in New Jersey, Hindenburg near Milwaukee, and Hindenburg Park near Los Angeles. But the largest and most infamous was Camp Siegfried in Yaphank, New York. This camp was similar to Nuremberg, which was the very heart of the Nazi movement in Germany.

Camp Siegfried was a forty-five-acre compound located about sixty miles east of New York City on Long Island. The Bundists rented entire trains running from Manhattan to the Yaphank station, called the “Camp Siegfried Special.” They held torchlight marches at night just as the Nazis did in Germany. At Camp Siegfried, the Nazis initiated thousands of youth into the Bund.

The largest Nazi rallies outside of Germany took place at Camp Siegfried. This camp became the center of the Nazi movement in the United States. Of all the fascists groups in America, the Bund was the most extreme, and Camp Siegfried was the heart of the Bund.

The Bund liked Camp Siegfried so much that they decided to build a little Nazi village. In January 1937, the local township approved a tract of land for development. It was named German Gardens. The township approved names for the streets which included Hindenburg Street, German Street, Goering and Goebbels streets, and, worst of all, Adolf Hitler Street.<sup>15</sup> To this day, “Adolf Hitler” is still the official name for this street. Now it is named “Park Boulevard,” but the deed map and town tax records for the homes still reflect “Adolf Hitler Street.”

The newspapers reported the first large crowd at Camp Siegfried on September 25, 1935. There were more than five thousand people present, and it ended with a torch procession. On July 21, 1936, the rally centered on attacking the Jews. Italian fascists joined the Bund for a rally on September 1, 1936, and more than twelve thousand people attended.

## Hitler and the Hurricane

Some of the speakers were Bernhard G. Lippert of the German consul-general and Reverend Kropp of the Evangelical Lutheran church, New York City.

Two huge Nazi rallies were later held at Camp Siegfried. The first was on August 29, 1937, when as many as thirty thousand may have attended. Various fascist groups joined the Bund for this meeting. On August 14, 1938, the largest Nazi rally outside of Germany took place—on American soil! The *New York Times* reported that forty thousand people attended this rally.<sup>16</sup>

## The Lord's Tempest

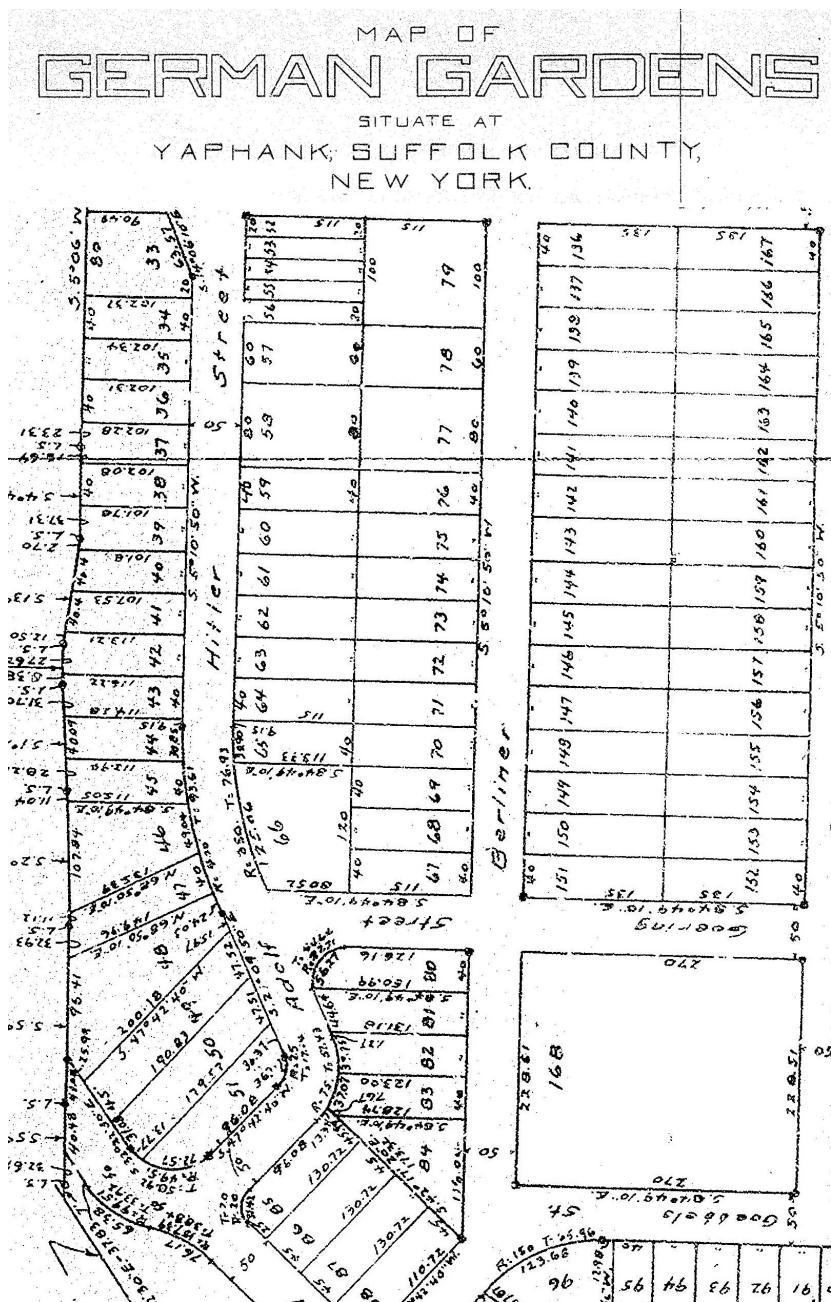
But the LORD sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea. (Jonah 1:4)

On September 4, 1938, just three weeks after the largest Nazi rally in America, the Great Hurricane of 1938 was born. As mentioned earlier, the epicenter of the storm was Bellport, New York. The epicenter of the eye of the Great Hurricane of 1938 then passed directly over Camp Siegfried, a mere thirty-eight days after it had been the center of the largest Nazi rally outside of Germany.

Since 1635, this was only the third hurricane of this magnitude to hit Long Island and New England. The Great Hurricane of 1938, perhaps the most powerful of the three, went directly over Adolf Hitler Street. This happened during the time the president of the United States turned his back on Czechoslovakia and the Jews. Along with the rest of the world, the president was feeding into Hitler's plan of world domination and annihilating world Jewry. In September 1938, the national headlines were Hitler and the hurricane; this correlation was front page headlines on every newspaper and radio news show in America. It seems that the hurricane was a stern warning.

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Photo Credit: Map 1219, Abstract 1238, Brookhaven Township, Suffolk Co., New York



Map showing Adolph Hitler Street, Yaphank, New York

## Hitler and the Hurricane

Photo Credit: Bettmann/Corbis



*Then: Adolf Hitler Street, Camp Siegfried, 1938*

Photo Credit: Jesse McTernan



*Now: John McTernan at the corner of Hitler St. (Park Blvd.) and Goering St. (Oak St.), Yaphank, New York*

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These events were not a coincidence, but an example of a fulfilled promise from the Bible. There are special promises in the Bible regarding the Jewish people and the land of Israel. For most of the history of the United States, the Jews lived quietly and without persecution; the 1930s were an exception.

You will see later in this book that starting in 1991 with the Madrid Peace Conference and the attempts to divide the land of Israel, incredible disasters like Hurricane Andrew, the Northridge Earthquake, and Hurricane Katrina occurred. These events fell on the very days that the United States was involved in pressuring Israel to divide its land. The parallels that began on September 21, 1938, continue to this day.