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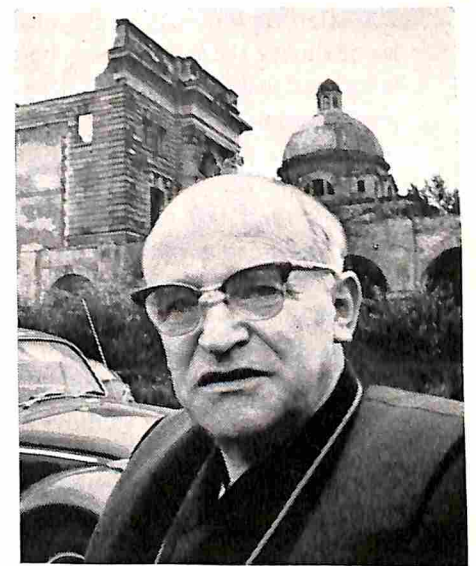
## History preserved in prison and buried for years

We do not usually give so much space to the work of men we admire so little. Our story on the private world of Adolf Hitler is told through the photographs of Hugo Jaeger, who was a fascist even before the Nazi party was formed, and through the memoirs of Albert Speer, a man of great intellect and perception who nevertheless blinded himself to the nature of the man and cause he served. But their very closeness and dedication to Hitler has enabled the two to make their intimate additions to history.

Both had a difficult time preserving their records of Hitler. In prison for 20 years as a war criminal, anxious to set down his memories before they blurred, Speer wrote everything he remembered on postcards and scraps of paper and smuggled them out to his family. When he was released four years ago, he had the raw material for his memoirs ready.

Jaeger, caught near the end of the war in a West German town, was fearful that American soldiers would confiscate or destroy his pictures. Packing them in a bag, he hid them in a cellar coal pile along with his last bottle of brandy. The Americans came, poked in the pile, found the bag and the bottle and opened both. The first thing they came upon in the bag was a little ivory gambling top—a put-and-take top—that Jaeger had tossed in. The soldiers paused, spun the top, then settled down happily to the brandy and a game of put-and-take, never touching the pictures.

Jaeger set out painstakingly to save his slides. He packed them into dozens of preserving jars, carried them to the edge of town and systematically buried them over the area of a square mile or so. As he went, he made a map: "From the railroad switch, 263 ties west, then 15 meters north. . . ." Several times in the next few years he dug up the jars, dried them out, re-packed and reburied them. They were all in fine condition when he dug them up for good.




PHOTOGRAPHER JAEGER

*Ralph Graves*  
RALPH GRAVES  
Managing Editor



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