**The Police State**

**Introduction**

• Upon taking power, Hitler passed a law allowing him to appoint civil servants and judges. Next, Hitler created a **police state**, led by **Heinrich Himmler**.

**Task 1**

[Interview Adolf Hitler](http://www.activehistory.co.uk/main_area/head2head/index.htm?hitler) about the structure of this police state and use his answers to fill in the “other points” boxes of the table above. Simply use the drop down menu, choose “police state” as your interview topic, and a series of questions will be suggested to you.

**SS**

**Led by:** Himmler

**ORPO**

**Led by:** Himmler

**Purpose:** Hitler’s personal bodyguard

**Purpose:** Standard Police Force

**Other points:**

**Other points:**

**Gestapo**

**Led by:** Heydrich

(reports to Himmler)

**Purpose:** Secret Police

**Concentration Camps**

**Other points:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Led by:** | SS Death’s Head Units  (report to Himmler) |
| **Purpose:** | Imprisons political and racial  opponents |
| **Other**  **points:** |  |

**Task 2**

What evidence can you find to suggest that there were weaknesses in the

Nazi police state?

▪

▪

▪

**Task 3**

Imagine it is 1935. You are a Social Democrat. You have just come home from a party, after having a bit too much to drink. A sharp knock comes at the door and your heart sinks as you realise you spent the last part of the evening heavily criticising Hitler and the Nazis.

What happens next? Construct a diary entry which should aim to show what happens to you, bringing in all four elements of the Nazi police state listed above and including as much accurate historical detail as possible. Aim to write about 300 words.