

## Lernen aus der Geschichte e.V.

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Das mehrsprachige Webportal publiziert fortlaufend Informationen zur historisch-politischen Bildung in Schulen, Gedenkstätten und anderen Einrichtungen zur Geschichte des 20. Jahrhunderts. Schwerpunkte bilden der Nationalsozialismus, der Zweite Weltkrieg sowie die Folgegeschichte in den Ländern Europas bis zu den politischen Umbrüchen 1989.

Dabei nimmt es Bildungsangebote in den Fokus, die einen Gegenwartsbezug der Geschichte herausstellen und bietet einen Erfahrungsaustausch über historisch-politische Bildung in Europa an.

## Concerning General Dietl Street

For doubly important topical reasons: The Bad Aibling High School is currently showing an exhibition about the "White Rose." This student resistance movement attacked the Nazi dictatorship in pamphlets distributed at Munich University in 1942 and 1943, until it was broken up on February 18, 1943, and the leaders — Hans and Sophie Scholl, A. Schmorell, Ch. Probst, and W. Graf — were executed. They sacrificed their lives in the fight against Nazi terror. Every German should take them as an example in fighting such brutality. But right in this town, there is a right-wing threat, and here there can be no discussion of youngsters led astray by racist slogans. No, this concerns individuals like the CDU Municipal Councillor and other so-called "Dietl admirers," who wish to prevent a citizen's initiative to rename General Dietl Street. These people admire a man who has been proven by the Military History Research Office of the German Army to have been a committed Nazi; someone who was not a fellow traveler, but who must fully account for his part in the disregard for human rights, the killing of six million Jews, and finally for the death of 55 million people during World War II. Nevertheless, some people not only do not want to change the name of a street which, for incomprehensible reasons, has already been named for one of Hitler's "war heroes"; no, they also want to confirm this pre-made decision by a vote — that is, by the will of the citizens of Aibling. **We** must resist such inflammatory and anti-human rights tendencies in our society –

– we, who are the only ones who can actually influence **our** future. None of us young people should

dare even think that apathy or disinterest is a valid excuse now or later. Those who on Monday morning are already thinking only of Friday night, who simply follow their own love of pleasure, must be told: Don't ever think of complaining about conditions or youth later on, when you are adults. Both will develop into what you have allowed them to. Here, at our school, we are supposed to be educated as responsible citizens. That does not mean that we should regurgitate predigested material at exams, but that we should think independently and apply this skill. And whoever thinks rationally about a reappearance of the "brown sauce" (i.e., the Nazis) even for a moment, as opposed to simply babbling slogans, will conclude: NEVER AGAIN! These people, who admire, respect, and revere crimes against human dignity, are a potential danger to the life and safety of EVERYONE. Hans Scholl and Alexander Schmorell understood that one must resist. Even though there were only a few who revolted against the inhumane Nazi terror regime, many others believed the same things but didn't do anything to help; they, therefore, contributed to the senseless murder of the White Rose leadership. We call upon you: Do not let the death of the White Rose have been in vain! Continue the tradition of resistance against inhumane movements! This problem affects not only Bad Aibling residents, but everyone. Those who close their eyes should not be allowed to have anything to do with the determination of our future. In the spirit of the White Rose, we are distributing this flyer to let everyone who receives it know that right here, in their neighborhood, something is happening which should not be. Inge Aicher-Scholl, sister of the executed brother and sister Scholls, characterized "public honor for Hitler's war heroes, like General Dietl," as a "glorification of force." She has already written to the mayor of Bad Aibling, strongly protesting the retention of the street name. This protest must be supported by all of us, so that someday in the future we do not have a situation again where protest means risking our lives. Today we can show all of the old Nazis that they will find no welcome for their ideas. It is not merely a simple question of naming a street, but a test of power between yesterday and today, and we can all help to ensure that "today" wins. Resist!