

## 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.

### **"Fashionable make-up - not a violation of war discipline!"**

Excerpt from the minutes of a secret Goebbel's conference, 12 March 1943.

The Minister was concerned with reports of derogatory remarks against well-dressed women by certain people who utterly misunderstood the requirements of total war. Severe measures must be used against attempts by the rabble to give themselves airs. The German press will receive relevant directives.

The SD (Security Service) report of March 1, 1943, indicates that the populace is offended by "women in pants painted up like Indians." For example, in Berlin there were complaints about women who go around wearing slacks made from the best men's fabrics, making it obvious that they are not wearing them for job-related reasons. The press received an advisory on March 16 that "measures for total war do not justify snooping into everything, especially superficial matters of appearance such as clothing, etc. If the popular media could pick up this theme one more time in a positive way, it would be good for them to point out that it is no violation of war discipline for a woman to dress nicely in the things she owns or otherwise make herself look pretty. We are not interested in superficial appearances, only in behavior and achievement.

Moreover, the Reich Economics Ministry rescinded its prohibition of permanent waves at the end

of March 1943. On March 29, 1943, the *Deutsche Nachrichten Büro* [DNB/German News Agency] reported "that permanents would be allowed throughout the Reich."

In: Willi A. Boelcke, ed., *Wollt Ihr den totalen Krieg? Die geheimen Goebbels-Konferenzen 1939-1945* [Do You Want Total War? The Secret Goebbels Conferences 1939-1945]. Stuttgart, 1967; reprint Herrsching, 1989, p. 347.