



HAJO HERRMANN, holder of the Knight's Cross for valour (*above, right, with the author*), flew against England in 1940 in the Battle of Britain; in a Heinkel 111 bomber, he operated with his squadron, KG.30, against the Russian convoys including PQ.17 in 1942. In 1943, after a saturation bombing raid killed nearly fifty thousand in Hamburg, he improvised overnight the "Wild Boar" freelance fighter technique which saved the lives of perhaps fifty thousand more in the city, and half a million people in other cities like Cologne and the German capital – forcing RAF Bomber Command to call off the "Battle of Berlin" altogether in March 1944.

Inevitably Herrmann features in several of David Irving's books – on the Luftwaffe, V-weapons, Hermann Göring, and Adolf Hitler.

When peace came, Hajo Herrmann took a law degree, and became a widely respected trial counsel.

In 1992, fifty years after the Arctic episodes portrayed in this book, Herrmann went into battle in the Munich Law Courts, defending its author for no fee against the political prosecutions brought by the German government under its laws for the suppression of free speech. He died November 5, 2010.

