

UNDER THE MAP OF GERMANY

Nationalism and propaganda 1918–1945

Guntram Henrik Herb



London and New York

CONTENTS

<i>List of figures</i>	vii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	ix
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xi
INTRODUCTION	1
1 NATIONALISM, TERRITORY, MAPS, AND PROPAGANDA	6
<i>Early representations of German national territory</i>	8
2 CARTOGRAPHY AND NATIONAL TERRITORY AT THE END OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR	13
<i>The First World War and national self-determination</i>	13
<i>Wilson's Fourteen Points and the importance of maps</i>	15
<i>Maps and claims to national territory</i>	19
<i>German initiatives</i>	23
<i>The peace treaties of Paris</i>	31
3 A CONCERN FOR ACCURACY	34
<i>Examination of existing maps</i>	34
<i>Production of new maps</i>	41
<i>Maps and the Upper Silesian plebiscite</i>	45
4 NEW CONCEPTS OF NATIONAL TERRITORY	49
<i>Emergence of spatial definitions</i>	50
<i>Potential of spatial concepts for territorial claims</i>	62
5 COORDINATION OF CARTOGRAPHIC REVISIONISM: THE STIFTUNG FÜR DEUTSCHE VOLKS- UND KULTURBODENFORSCHUNG	65
<i>First initiatives</i>	65
<i>Scientific-political congresses</i>	69
<i>Expansion of activities</i>	71
<i>The demise of the "Stiftung"</i>	74

CONTENTS

6	MAPS AS WEAPONS: THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUGGESTIVE CARTOGRAPHY	76
	<i>First initiatives</i>	78
	<i>The practice of suggestive cartography</i>	84
7	CREATING A UNIFIED MESSAGE	95
	<i>Changes in map design</i>	95
	<i>A concern for boundaries and place names</i>	101
	<i>The "Stiftung" as an enforcer of unified design</i>	104
	<i>The emergence of new maps</i>	105
	<i>Conflicting messages</i>	115
8	CONCEPTS OF NATIONAL TERRITORY IN THE THIRD REICH	119
	<i>Modification of existing concepts</i>	119
	<i>The emergence of new concepts</i>	132
	<i>Coordination of research</i>	134
	<i>A renewed interest in accuracy</i>	142
	<i>The demise of the demand for German self-determination</i>	149
9	MAPS AND NAZI PROPAGANDA	151
	<i>Theoretical advances</i>	154
	<i>Unreflective use of terminology</i>	158
	<i>Organization of production</i>	159
	<i>Cooperation with existing institutions</i>	160
	<i>Regulation and control</i>	165
	<i>Innovations</i>	172
	CONCLUSION	178
	<i>Notes</i>	187
	<i>Primary sources</i>	218
	<i>A. Archival sources</i>	218
	<i>B. Published works in specialized collections</i>	221
	<i>C. Periodical survey</i>	221
	<i>D. Interviews and correspondence</i>	221
	<i>Bibliography</i>	223
	<i>Index</i>	242

FIGURES

2.1 Distribution of Poles and Germans in West Prussia and Poznan I	25
2.2 Distribution of Poles and Germans in West Prussia and Poznan II	28
2.3 Conflicting territorial claims in Central Europe	30
2.4 Territorial provisions of the Treaty of Versailles	32
3.1 Section of Spett's 1918 map	35
3.2 The distribution of national groups in the corridor area based on Walter Geisler's "geographical" method	44
4.1 Otto Maull's map of nations	50
4.2 Natural boundaries and limits of German culture in Eastern Europe	52
4.3 The geo-organic unity of Upper Silesia as expressed in the interwoven system of railroad, water, and electric lines	54
4.4 Albrecht Penck's concept of the <i>Volks- und Kulturboden</i>	57
4.5 German <i>Volksboden</i> according to Max Hildebert Boehm	59
4.6 Germany's strategic shortcomings as a result of her irregular territorial shape I	60
4.7 Germany's strategic shortcomings as a result of her irregular territorial shape II	61
6.1 Map accompanying März's article, which showed the territorial provisions of the Treaty of Versailles	80
6.2 Territorial cessions and plebiscites	85
6.3 The isolation of East Prussia I	86
6.4 The isolation of East Prussia II	87
6.5 Berlin, a border city on three sides	92
7.1 Composite ethnographic map I: " <i>Deutsches Grenzland in Not</i> "	107
7.2 Composite ethnographic map II: "The German-language area with the ceded territories"	108
7.3 Slightly modified reproduction of the Penck/Fischer map	110
7.4 Disruption of the geo-organic unity: dissected railroad lines	112
7.5 Threat to the German East and South	114

LIST OF FIGURES

7.6	Silesia threatened by a pincer attack	115
7.7	Germany's vulnerability to air attack	116
8.1	The negative definition of national territory: strategic and military vulnerability of Germany	120
8.2	The Slavic conspiracy	122
8.3	The probable source for depictions of the Slavic conspiracy	123
8.4	The center of Europe in 1914 and 1938	124
8.5	The center of Europe in 1914 and 1939	125
8.6	Polish aspirations to German territory I	126
8.7	Polish aspirations to German territory II	127
8.8	Eastern limits of German culture	129
8.9	The distribution of races in Europe and Northern Africa	133
8.10	The line of demarcation	141
9.1	A left-wing suggestive map: "The Germans in Central Europe"	153
9.2	Comparison between a scientific and a popular geopolitical map	155
9.3	"A minor state threatens Germany"	156
9.4	Allegorical Map I: "The eastern front of German cities outside the German state territory"	174
9.5	Allegorical Map II: "German people, you are dissected by boundaries"	175
10.1	Hitler's goals for <i>Lebensraum</i>	180
10.2	Contemporary map of German national territory: "East Germany and our Sudetenland, home to more than 13 million Germans"	186

Note: The maps reproduced in this volume are historical documents and the author and publisher have made every effort to obtain the best quality copies available.