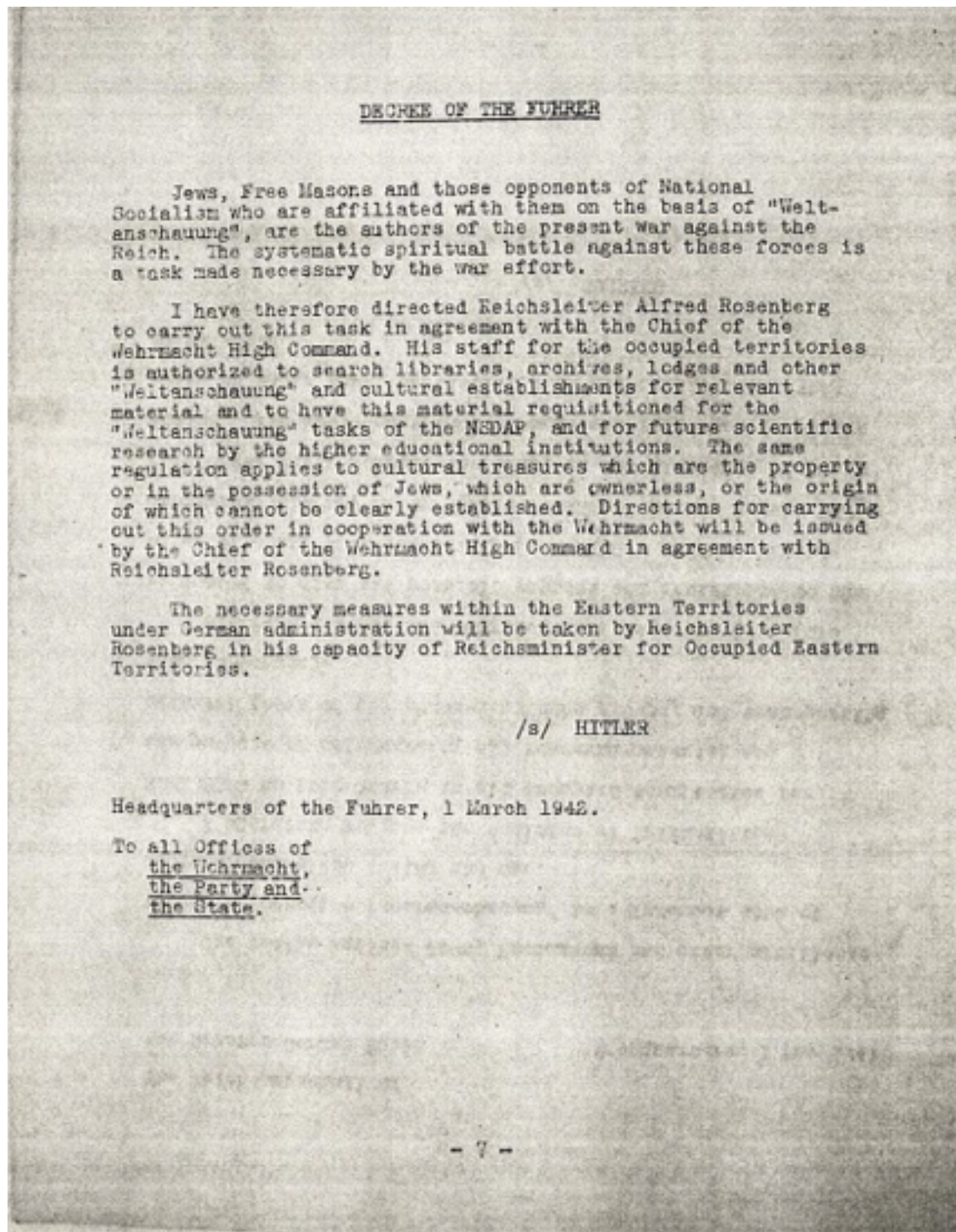


## Monuments Men

### Hitler's Decree



TRANSCRIPTION:

Jews, Free Masons and those opponents of National Socialism who are affiliated with them on the basis of “Weltanschauung,” are the authors of the present war against the Reich. The systematic spiritual battle against these forces is a task made necessary by the war effort.

I have therefore directed Reichsleiter Alfred Rosenberg to carry out this task in agreement with the Chief of the Wehrmacht High Command. His staff for the occupied territories is authorized to search libraries, archives, lodges and other “Weltanschauung” and cultural establishments for relevant material and to have this material requisitioned for the “Weltanschauung” tasks of the NSDAP, and for future scientific research by the higher education institutions. The same regulation applies to cultural treasures which are the property or in the possession of Jews, which are ownerless, or the origin of which cannot be clearly established. Directions for carrying out this order in cooperation with the Wehrmacht will be issued by the Chief of the Wehrmacht High Command in agreement with Reichsleiter Rosenberg.

The necessary measures within the Eastern Territories under German administration will be taken by Reichsleiter Rosenberg in his capacity of Reichminister for Occupied Eastern Territories.

/s/ HITLER

Headquarters of the Fuhrer, 1 March 1942

To all Offices of  
the Wehrmacht,  
the Party and  
the State