

'I Swear by God this sacred oath':

I shall render unconditional obedience to Adolf Hitler, the Führer of the German Reich and people, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, and will be ready as brave soldier to risk my life at any time for this oath'.

Would the German soldier have made this oath if they knew that it would cause the mass murders of Jews, Gypsies and Gays?

Everything that the Germans thought they were fighting for, all the peace and happiness they thought they were going to bring. The six million plus people that were killed in concentration camps, six million lives lost because of their faiths, the way they live and their sexuality. Many men, women and children. Generations lost because of one man and his hatred of people that were not his ideal, perfect German.

All the bloodshed, all the bodies, all the hate. No one could have predicted this, no one would have known, no one could have stopped this.

The cruelty, the scars, the hunger, the death. No one can even start to imagine the pain and suffering. There was no saviour to help them, all they had was their dreams, their loved ones dead. Everything taken away in an instant.

If the Nazis had not lost the war many more lives would be lost in the gas chambers. But we will let the memories of those who were tragically lost and carry on through history to remind the world that life can be so cruel.

*Laura Pruhs – Year 11*