

# The Role of Capitalism in Fascism: American Corporations in Nazi Germany



Read the article “How Fanta was invented in Nazi Germany to quench people's thirst for Coke” to explore Coca-Cola’s relationship with Nazi Germany. How was Coca Cola affected by the allied punishment of Germany?

How did Coca-Cola handle the challenge it faced in bringing Coke to Germans?

**General Motors:**  
GM's chief executive for overseas operations in 1938 was awarded the Order of the German Eagle (first class) by Chancellor Adolf Hitler.

Read the article's introduction, the 2009 is building on concepts from (and) copyrighted material documenting U.S. automotive company cooperation with the Nazis. This article originally appeared in the FIFTH ESTATE.

During the 1920's and 1930's, the Big Three automakers undertook an extensive program of industrial expansion. In 1928, General Motors acquired Germany's largest automobile company, Adam Opel, S.A. By the mid-1930's, these three American companies owned extensive subsidiaries throughout Europe and the Far East, many of these foreign facilities were located in the politically sensitive nations of Germany, Poland, Romania, Austria, Hungary, Latvia and Japan.

At the Axis Powers' monthly prepared for war, General Mo-

“But documents discovered in German and American archives show a much more complicated picture. In certain instances, American managers of both GM and Ford went along with the conversion of their German plants to military production at a time when U.S. government documents show they were still resisting calls by the Roosevelt administration to step up military production in their plants at home.”

Source: Washington Post

Explain in three points how IBM was directly connected to the Holocaust.

