

party became involved. Himmler wanted them to be placed in concentration camps. In 1944 thirteen youths were publicly hanged in Cologne.

HOW SUCCESSFUL WERE THEY?

In 1933 Nazi leaders reported that they suspected the Edelweiss Pirates of spraying anti-Hitler and anti-War graffiti (of which there are only suspicions it was never proved.)

The movement was made illegal after the war and was closed down.

THE EDELWEISS PIRATES

WHY DID THEY OPPOSE THE NAZIS?

The Edelweiss Pirates mainly opposed to the way the Hitler Youth movement had taken over the lives of other youths in Germany.

WHO JOINED THIS GROUP?

Youth who wished to be free from the Nazi regime. The members were generally of lower class than those in the "swing groups."

WHAT DID THE EDELWEISS PIRATES DO?

They defied restrictions on movement (they were known for being anti-authority and non-conformist) and went on hiking trips where they would listen to forbidden music and talk freely. The 'pirates' were believed to be responsible for posting British anti-Nazi propaganda through letterboxes.

HOW DID THE NAZIS RESPOND?

At first they were considered small-scale irritants. However hatred towards the 'pirates' by the Nazis grew during the war. The punishment was generally a shaved head but then the heads of the