

Parade 11/27/72

Q. Was there ever a plot to kill Adolf Hitler through pornography?—Barbara Marks, Berkeley, Calif.

A. During World War II, some of the brilliant minds in the OSS (The Office of Strategic Services), the American Intelligence Agency, believed they could drive Hitler mad via pornography. They knew he was a sexual deviate, and they believed that if confronted by a mass of pornography, Hitler might go insane. They thereupon assembled a superb collection of nude photographs highlighting sexual perversity, and suggested that it be dropped over Hitler's headquarters. They thought Hitler would find them during one of his strolls, inspect the dirty pictures, and subsequently suffer a nervous breakdown.

The idea was vetoed by a sensible colonel in the Army Air Force who thought our intelligence agents were themselves mad to have dreamed up such an idiotic scheme.

Details of the porno plot to destroy Hitler may be read in *OSS: The Secret History of America's First Central Intelligence Agency*, by Richard Harris Smith, published by the University of California Press.