

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910789418903321
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Titolo	Jung on War, politics and nazi germany : exploring the theory of archetypes and the collective unconscious // by Nicholas Lewin
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Boca Raton, FL : , : Routledge, an imprint of Taylor and Francis, , [2018] ©2009
ISBN	0-429-91533-0 0-429-90110-0 0-429-47633-7 1-283-13444-6 9786613134448 1-84940-852-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (413 p.)
Disciplina	327.101/9
Soggetti	Philosophy, German - 19th century Philosophy, German - 20th century Germany Politics and government 19th century Germany Politics and government 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 376-403) and index.
Nota di contenuto	COVER; CONTENTS; ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS; INTRODUCTION; Phase One: The Political Jung; 1. CONCERNING FREUD AND JUNG ON INTERNATIONAL POLITICS AND WAR; 2. JUNG AND HIS POLITICS; 3. JUNG ON INTERNATIONAL POLITICS AND THE CAUSES OF WAR; Phase Two: Exploring the Theory; 4. FROM THE INDIVIDUAL TO 'THE COLLECTIVE': EXAMINING JUNG'S PROGRESSION FROM CLINICIAN TO GRAND THEORIST; 5. THE LAYERED MODEL OF THE COLLECTIVE UNCONSCIOUS; 6. ARCHETYPES: 'TOWARDS THE DISTANT GOAL OF A GENETIC PSYCHOLOGY'; 7. THE EFFECT OF THE ARCHETYPES IN THE POLITICAL ARENA; Phase Three: When Theory Meets History 8. THE TEST CASE: WOTAN AND NAZI GERMANY.9. JUNG ON HITLER: A CASE STUDY FOR ARCHETYPAL OR TYPOLOGY THEORY?; 10. POST-JUNGIAN ARCHETYPAL THEORY AND INTERNATIONAL POLITICS; APPENDIX A THE QUESTION OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN THE ZOFINGIA

LECTURES; APPENDIX B THE FREUDIANS AND COLLECTIVE THEORY;  
APPENDIX CJ UNG'S PERSPECTIVE ON INTERNATIONAL POLITICS AFTER  
1945; APPENDIX D ADOLF BASTIAN AND ELEMENTARGEDANKEN;  
APPENDIX E KEY DATES FOR JUNG DURING THE NAZI SEIZURE OF  
POWER; BIBLIOGRAPHY; INDEX

Sommario/riassunto

In the thirties Jung was at the height of his powers and found himself swept up in the international politics of his day. At this time he was president of what was to become the International General Medical Society for Psychotherapy. As a consequence of Hitler's rise, Jung and his ideas were placed in the centre of a whirlwind of theoretical and political controversy. These chaotic times led him to comment widely on political events and saw his most extensive attempt to explain these events in terms of his theories of the collective and his use of the archetype of Wotan to explain Nazi Germany. This work is part of the ongoing reappraisal of the intellectual fabric of Jung's theory and the perspective he sought to establish, and seeks to re-examine the period, to unravel some of the confusion by setting out the historical background of Jung's ideas, and provide a fresh debate on Jung and his collective theory.