

## #147 The Hammer of the Whole Earth – The Role of Peenemunde



A map of Germany with the red circle illustrating the general location of Peenemunde

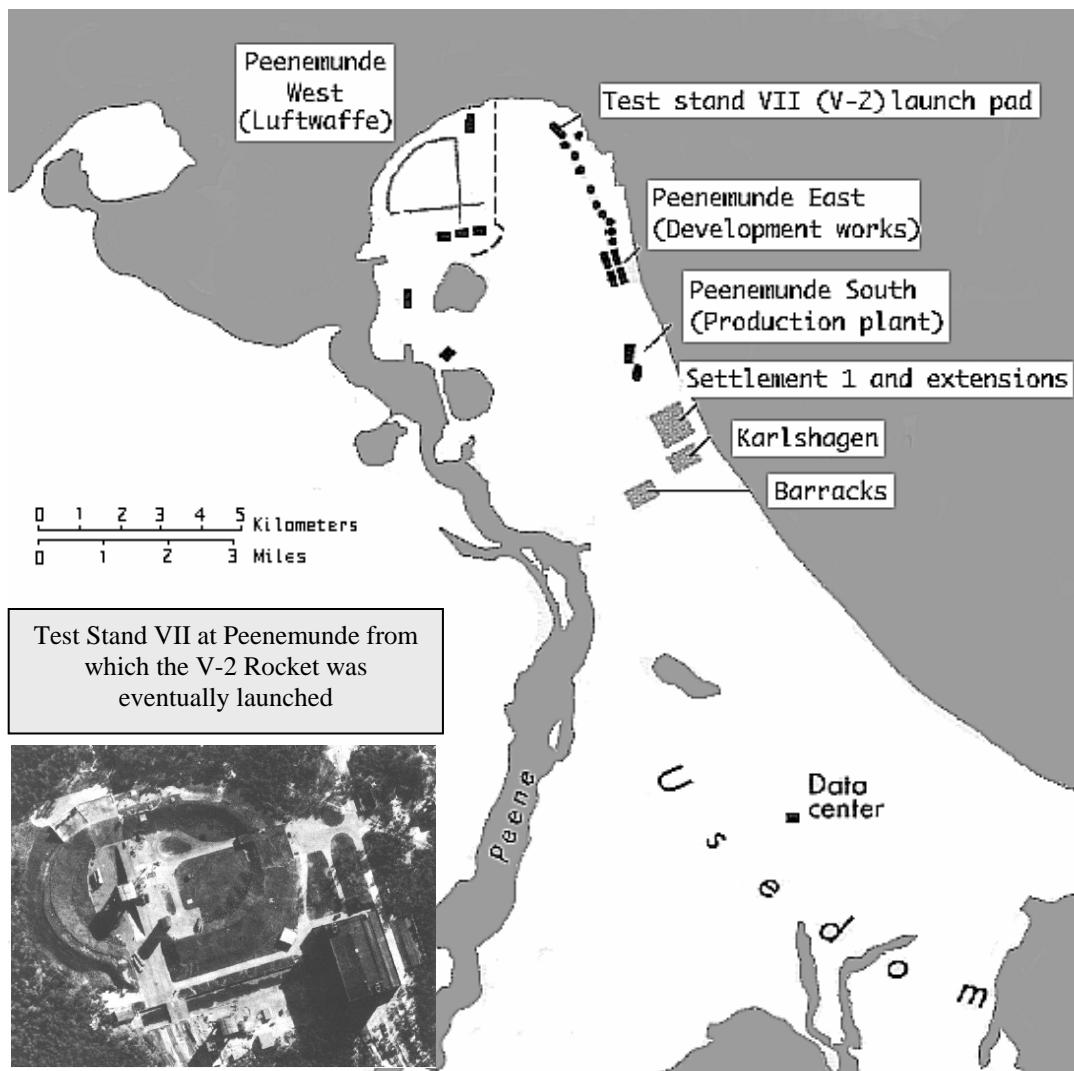
In Unsealing [#123 The Short Space Kingdoms – The V-2 Rocket: Broken Clay](#) Germany's Role in the U.S. vs. USSR Space Race, we discussed Germany's development of the V-1 and V-2 rockets. **It was at a site called Peenemunde in Germany that the Germans developed the V-1 and V-2 rockets.**

Peenemunde is a village in northeast Germany located on the Baltic Sea at the mouth of the Peene River on the island of Usedom. It was originally a quiet, wooded region, but came to the attention of the German Army and Luftwaffe in their search for a new rocket development site. The site was actually suggested to Wernher von Braun by his mother. Peenemunde, since it was located on the coast, permitted the launching of rockets, and their subsequent monitoring, across about 200 miles of open water.

Peenemunde on the island of Usedom



**Peenemunde** became the site of the development of the basics of rocket technology for the V-1 and V-2 weapons. At Peenemunde was new housing for engineers and scientists, a POW camp (for they used the POWs for forced labor), a rocket production facility, a development works facility, and the Luftwaffe Airfield. The site would eventually be home to over 2,000 scientists and 4,000 other personnel. Toward the northern end of the Peenemunde complex were nine test stands for the firing of rockets.



Allied intelligence eventually found out about Peenemunde, and heavy air raids targeted the site, especially an attack by 500 Royal Air Force heavy bombers on the night of August 16-17, 1943, in what the Allies called Operation Hydra. According to an official German report, this raid killed 815 staff, mostly foreign POWs, and Walter Thiel, the head of engine development. Though much of the facility was undamaged, Peenemunde's vulnerability was now evident and the Germans carried out remaining field trials on the V-2 in Poland. Henceforth production and deployment of the V-2 were carried out by the German SS, headed by Heinrich Himmler. A

suitable site for production was in a complex of tunnels beneath the Kohnstein Mountain near Nordhausen in central Germany.

**Key Understanding:** *The role of Peenemunde.* Peenemunde made its mark on world history, for the research and development of the V-2 would be a basis for both (a) the Space Race programs of the U.S. and the USSR, and (b) future ballistic missile weaponry. The Lord ordained that the research and development of the V-2 – which would eventually help the U.S. – occur *at Peenemunde*. The English word *peen* refers to a *hammer*, or *hammering*. With the help of Peenemunde, the U.S. would become the Hammer of the Whole Earth.

*Jeremiah 50:23 (KJV) How is THE HAMMER OF THE WHOLE EARTH cut asunder and BROKEN! how is Babylon become a desolation among the nations!*

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