

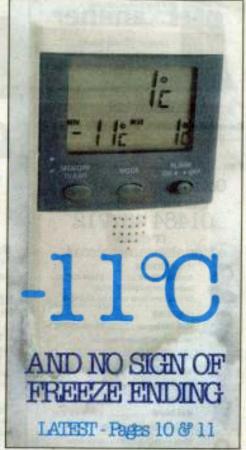
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## RECHOLD WOTOR

Local lad Nick to sell £10m Nazi piece of work ■ ONE WARTIME OWNER: Huddersfield-born Nick Szkiler, 54, now of Malton, who unearthed Goering's Mercedes 600K. It would cost a seven figure sum to recondition and then it could be worth £12m. Below: Herman Goering

A HUDDERSFIELD-born car dealer has unearthed Herman Goering's favourite Mercedes.

Nick Szkiler, 54, whose parents still live in Marsh, will now handle the sale of the Mercedes 600K Special Roadster in Russia following a tip off.

With bomb-proof armour and bulletresistant glass, it was owned by the notorious Reichsmarshal throughout the war, before it was taken by the Americans and nicknamed the "Blue Goose".

Only 26 of the cars were built, and one owned by Formula One supremo Bernie Ecclestone sold for almost £4m in 2007.

Already an incredibly rare car, Nick believes the added historical interest could make it worth more than £10m if a major renovation was invested in.

Nick, and his company, Classic and Sportscar Centre, is now based in Malton, North Yorkshire.

He said: "I wasted no time in following

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it up! I took a flight to Moscow and then a 15-hour sleeper train ride to the car, I'd never seen the like of it.

"It was built in 1942 by Germany's premier coachbuilder Erdmann and Rossi.

"Most of the car body was made from steel 8mm thick with some parts as much as 12mm.

"Front bumpers were capable of ramming and the massive rear bumper protrusions with rubber buffers were clearly intended to allow the car to be shunted in the event of being disabled by a bomb."

The body parts could only have been made by huge steel presses and it took two people to open the hood mechanism.

He added: "Much of the car was substituted with Russian parts as the car fell into disrepair in the 1970s, so restoration will be a huge undertaking, but it is an amazing find."

He added he is aware that the sale of anything in connection with the Nazis could lead to charges of cashing in on misery

He said: "In 1942, when the car was made, my father was an 18-year-old Polish boy was working as a slave labourer in Germany. He had been forcibly taken from his home in Western Poland and made to work for his enemy, ultimately, fighting against them later in the War.

"As a Christian I know what the Bible says the wealth of the wicked is stored up for.

"The Russian family who owned the car have Jewish roots and suffered greatly at the hands of the Nazis.

"The owner, his Russian pastor and myself all see the proceeds of this vehicle being put to purposes close to our hearts. They see raising money from this car almost like divine retribution."

