

## **Fritz P. Molden**

From his bio...After the 'Anschluss' in March 1938, Fritz Molden's father and older brother were arrested and his mother was violently beaten. The 14 year old Molden initially joined the Catholic Youths and in 1941 was sentenced to 8 years imprisonment for attempted treason. Molden was moved to a penal battalion on the Eastern front, survived and eventually joined the Austrian Resistance 'O5'. In 1947, he was honored with the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his heroic deeds during the war.

After the war, Fritz Molden was secretary to the Austrian Foreign Minister Karl Gruber, soon after he became Foreign Editor at the 'Presse', re-established by his father. Between 1948 and 1949 he had a short diplomatic career, among others as Head of the Austrian Information Centre in New York.

After returning to Austria, Fritz Molden returned to the 'Presse' and took over the publishing house after the death of his father in 1953. At the end of the 1950's, Molden in his mid-thirties was at that time probably the largest and most important newspaper publisher in the country. He became a book publisher in 1960's, and is currently writing books in an active retirement.