Instruction

In the immediate aftermath of World War II, the phrase Stunde null ("zero hour") was used to suggest that 1945 marked a new beginning to history, allowing Germans to make a clean break with National Socialism. **What political, rhetorical, or symbolic steps did West German leaders take to consign fascism to the past and make this "zero hour" idea a reality?** As the 1950s became the 1960s, **did interpretations of the fascist past, or of whether it had truly been dealt with, change over time? If so (The answer is yes, absolutely), how?**

Length: ca. 750 words = three pages, typed, double-spaced

Note: Please use the standard college essay style.

Please make a clear thesis statement in both introduction and conclusion paragraph. Each body paragraph should have a topic sentence, and at least three supporting sentences that also are supported by details and specific examples.

There are some guiding ideas that provided from my TA.

Types of steps: Political: Changes of official government policies and structures. (Rejection of concrete features of Nazism)

Rhetorical: Ways of speaking/talking.

Symbolic: Public acts/changes meant to show “starting-over”. (Rejection of ideas associated with Nazism)

Part I

* Explain the idea of Stunde Null (Write to an intelligent audience with no background)
* Choose best examples of immediate post war activities directly tied to it.
* Show (Don’t tell) the readers how activities exemplified the Stunde Null mindset.

Part II

* What ideas developed in the 60’s in reaction to Stunde Null?
  + Different interpretations of fascist past
  + Different opinions as to whether it had been fully dealt with.
* Note: evidence of change will be acts/statements.
  + Indirect opposition to Stunde Null.
  + Contrary in spring to Stunde Null.

Ps: In this essay, you may free to use any other source if you want. Please control the plagiarism rate under 15%.