# SIX MILLION MURDERS

An Introduction to the Holocaust

# **Six Million Murders**

#### "There were not six million Jews murdered; there was one murder, six million times" Abel Herzberg

Six Million Murders is intended to help introduce you to the one of the darkest periods in human history: the Holocaust of the Jews and their nearly complete annihilation from Europe during World War II.

It took only 8 years, from 1938 until 1945, to murder 6 million Jews. Yet each murder was that of an individual, a person who was a child, a father or mother, brother or sister. We will never know the fear and terror that each victim felt as they faced death.

Sadly the racial theories of the Nazi regime was not applied only to Jews, but they were expanded to justify the destruction of Roma, Sinta, Slavs, homosexuals, political opponents, and even Germans who were mentally ill or not born in perfect physical condition that would meet the standards of the Aryan race.

The goal of Six Million Murders is to stimulate further research into the Holocaust on the part of readers. Hopefully students will undertake more extensive research into the Holocaust. Six Million Murders relies upon leading Holocaust websites for content. Website content is italicized.

About the author: Mark Meyerowitz' grandmother and mother survived Auschwitz-Birkenau and the women's slave camp of Ravensbruck. Mark's father, born and raised in Paterson, NJ, was a soldier in the US Army in Europe and was a member of the liberating force of Ohrdruff Concentration and Death Camp, the first death camp liberated by US troops.

After the passing of his mother in 2009, Mark found poems among his mother's papers, written on WWII era paper. The authors are unknown. Mark had the poems translated into English and Spanish. He published the poems with photographs that he took in Auschwitz-Birkenau. The booklet is entitled "When You Say Your Last Goodbye."

Mark recently founded a Holocaust educational not-for-profit organization called The Holocaust Arts Foundation, Inc. in which music and graphic arts will be created to further the understanding of the enormity of the Holocaust.

Mark is a member of the New Jersey-Israel Commission and the State of New Jersey Holocaust Education Commission.

Mark holds a Certificate in Appraisal Studies in Fine and Decorative Arts from New York University.

The stunning images in this publication, created exclusively for this publication, are the creation of artist Olga Kurkina. Olga lives and works in Voronezh, Russia. Olga combines her love for computer graphics with her love of fine arts to create images that capture the emotions and inner feelings of her subjects. Olga's projects have included advertisements, magazine work, cartoons, and books. The images created by Olga for this publication are based on actual photographs from the Holocaust.

Six Million Murders is a publication of The Holocaust Arts Foundation, Inc. Drawings created by children are on display in the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum. Holocaustartsfoundation@gmail.com

Publication design by AV Design Media Website: avdesignmedia.com | Email: avdesignwork@gmail.com

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## INTRODUCTION: What Was The Holocaust?

#### Sec. 1: What was the Holocaust?

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum website, called the Holocaust Encyclopedia, writes the following:

The Holocaust was the systematic, bureaucratic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of six million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators. Holocaust is a word of Greek origin meaning "sacrifice by fire." The Nazis, who came to power in Germany in January 1933, believed that the Germans were "racially superior" and that Jews, deemed "inferior," were an alien threat to the so-called German racial community.

During the era of the Holocaust, German authorities also targeted other groups because of their perceived racial and biological inferiority: Roma (Gypsies), people with disabilities, and some of the Slavic peoples (Poles, Russians, and others). Other groups were persecuted on political, ideological, and behavioral grounds, among them Communists, Socialists, Jehovah's Witnesses, and homosexuals.

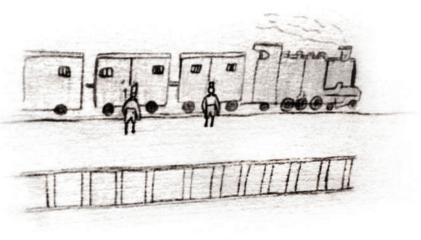
# Sec. 2: Origins of Anti-Semitism: The seeds of the Holocaust were planted in Europe hundreds of years before the Holocaust.

The anti-Semitism that fueled the Holocaust had existed in Europe for hundreds, if not thousands, of years before the creation of the Third Reich. The History website (www.history.com/anti-Semitism) writes:

With the rise of Christianity, anti-Semitism spread throughout much of Europe. Early Christians vilified Judaism in a bid to gain more converts. They accused Jews of outlandish acts such as "blood libel"-the kidnapping and murder of Christian children to use their blood to make Passover bread.

These religious attitudes were reflected in anti-Jewish economic, social and political policies that pervaded into the European Middle Ages.

With the rise of centralized kingdoms and then mercantilism in Europe, anti-Semitism took on new forms. Jews were expelled from various countries, most notably Spain, where they had flourished for centuries. In both Western and Eastern Europe Jews were forced to live in ghettos. Jews were restricted from land ownership and many types of occupations. One of the few fields open to Jews was banking. Jewish bankers prospered which led to charges that Jews were controlling the world and the world banking system. Medieval anti-Semitic believes were carried into the twentieth century.





## Sec 3: The Master Race: Racial superiority was the lynchpin underlying Nazi doctrine

Germans saw themselves as a superior race, a "Master Race."The mission of the "Master race" was to dominate and eliminate the inferior races, especially Jews, who were out to destroy the master race. The Master Race was entrusted to expand the Fatherland into the territories of the inferior races.

The website of the Nuremberg Documentation Center says the following:

Nazi racism, an ideological waste product of the worldwide scientific enlightenment, divides people

into "creative and destructive" races of differing worth. It thus reinforces the notion that nature has thrust individuals, peoples and races into a perpetual struggle for survival in which the "weak" and "sick" will be destroyed by the "strong" and "healthy."

In this deluded configuration, the Jews count as a population of parasites trying to destroy the "valuable" peoples from within. After the 1917 October Revolution in Russia, this notion is expanded with the idea that Bolshevism is a tool of the Jewish campaign for world domination. And thus is born the "Jewish-Bolshevik world enemy."

Racist persecution under the Third Reich victimizes not only Jews, but also Sinti and Roma. And it can also turn against the Germans' own "race": any genetic material considered less worthy is to be cast out from the "hereditary stream" of the German people; life that is "unworthy to live" must be destroyed.

Ultimately, the war eliminates all inhibitions against a "biological" solution of purportedly biological problems. Limited campaigns of murder become campaigns of "extirpation" which in their turn- in the fall of 1941- become systematic genocide.

#### Sec. 4: History of European Jewry

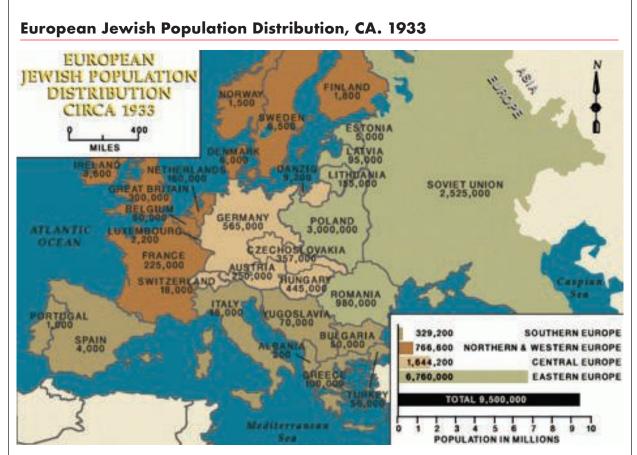
Jews have lived in Europe since ancient times. Jews lived in ancient Rome and in other parts of ancient Europe. Jews lived in Spain for hundreds of years before the expulsion from Spain in 1492. Jews settled throughout Europe, ranging mainly from France, Germany, and into Eastern Europe.



From the website of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum:

When the Nazis came to power in Germany in 1933, Jews were living in every country of Europe. A total of roughly nine million Jews lived in the countries that would be occupied by Germany during World War II. By the end of the war, two out of every three of these Jews would be dead, and European Jewish life would be changed forever.

In 1933 the largest Jewish populations were concentrated in Eastern Europe including Poland, the Soviet Union, Hungary and Romania. Many of the Jews of Eastern Europe lived in predominantly Jewish towns or villages, called shtetls. Eastern European Jews lived a separate life as a minority within the culture of the majority. They spoke their own language, Yiddush, which combines elements of German and Hebrew. They read Yiddush books, and attended Yiddush theater and movies. Although many younger Jews in larger towns were beginning to adopt modern ways and dress, older people often dressed traditionally, the men wearing hats or caps, and the women modestly covering their hair with wigs or kerchiefs.



Jews have lived in Europe for more than two thousand years. The American Jewish Yearbook placed the total Jewish population of Europe at about 9.5 million in 1933. This number represented more than 60 percent of the world's Jewish population, which was estimated at 15.3 million. Most European Jews resided in eastern Europe, with about 5 1/2 million Jews living in Poland and the Soviet Union. Before the Nazi takeover of power in 1933, Europe had a dynamic and highly developed Jewish culture. In little more than a decade, most of Europe would be conquered, occupied, or annexed by Nazi Germany and most European Jews—two out of every three—would be dead.

Source: U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

In comparison, the Jews of Western Europe— Germany, France, Italy the Netherlands, and Belgium—made up much less of the population and tended to adopt the culture of their non-Jewish neighbors. They dressed and talked like their countrymen, and traditional religious practices and Yiddush culture played a less important part in their lives. They tended to have had more formal education than Eastern European Jews and live in towns and cities. Jews could be found in all walks of life, as farmers, tailors, seamstresses, factory hands, accountants doctors, teachers, and small business owners. Some families were wealthy; many more were poor. Many children ended their schooling early to work in a craft or trade; others looked forward to continuing their education at the university level. Still, whatever their differences, they were the same in one respect: by 1933, with the rise of the Nazis to power in Germany, they all became potential victims, and their lives were forever changed.

#### Sec. 5: How did Hitler Consolidate Power?

Hitler used the laws of the Weimar Republic to gain control of Germany.

Even though the Nazi Party controlled only about a third of the seats in the Reichstag, Hitler was named the new Chancellor of Germany.

According to schoolhistory.org.uk, Hitler wasted no time in consolidating his position as Chancellor. Nazi control of the Reichstag and it's institutions was a necessity to enable his plans.

The Nazis took a number of steps to consolidate power.

They raised money from willing industrialists and used the money to control the radio and press.

They called for new elections. Communists were arrested, sent to concentration camps, and executed. In the summer of 1933 other political parties were dissolved.

The existing police leadership was purged and replaced by Nazi supporters.

Trade union leadership was abolished and the unions were put under the control of the Nazi Party.

Nazi and Nazi sympathizing radio and press were created.

In 1934 the leaders of the army were arrested and executed without trial. The Nazis took control of the military. Hitler was named supreme commander and assumed the title of Fuhrer.

www.britannica.com writes: Schools, universities, the press, the theatre, and the arts were forced to follow the pattern of Nazi ideology through the schools and the compulsory Hitler Youth.

The Catholic Church signed an agreement with the Nazi party that neutralized Catholic opposition to the Nazi state.

The Nazi's arranged for a Nazi Party member to take over the German Protestant Church.

## Sec. 6: Kristallnacht: The Beginning of the Holocaust

Kristallnacht, Nov. 9, 1938, marks the first time state-sponsored violence and destruction occurred against the Jews on a large scale basis. The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum website describes Kristallnacht:

On the night of November 9, 1938, violent anti-Jewish demonstrations broke out across Germany, Austria, and the Sudetenland region of Czechoslovakia. Nazi officials depicted the riots as justified reactions to the assassination of German foreign official Ernst vom Rath, who had been shot two days earlier by Herschel Grynszpan, a 17-year old Polish Jew distraught over the deportation of his family from Germany.

Over the next 48 hours, violent mobs, spurred by anti-Semitic exhortations from Nazi officials,, destroyed hundreds of synagogues, burning or desecrating Jewish religious artifacts along the way. Acting on orders from Gestapo headquarters, police officers and firefighters did nothing to prevent the



destruction. All told, approximately 7,500 Jewishowned businesses, homes, and schools were plundered, and 91 Jews were murdered. An additional 30,000 Jewish men were arrested and sent to concentration camps. Nazi officials immediately claimed that the Jews themselves were to blame for the riots, and a fine of one billion reichsmarks (about \$400 million in 1938 rates)was imposed on the German Jewish community. The Nazis came to call the event Kristallnacht ("Crystal Night," or, "The Night of Broken Glass"), referring to the thousands of shattered windows that littered the streets afterwards, but the euphemism does not convey the full brutality of the event. Kristallnacht was a turning point in the history of the Third Reich, marking the shift from anti-Semitic rhetoric and legislation to the violent, aggressive anti-Jewish measures that would culminate with the Holocaust.

#### Sec. 7: The World, including the U.S. refused to accept Jewish refugees

Before and during WWII very few nations were willing to accept Jewish refugees seeking to flee from Nazi persecution.

From the Yad Vashem website, www.yadvashem.org

The US government would not change its immigration quotas to allow in more Jewish refugees from Europe, nor did it embark on extensive rescue operations. Despite relatively early knowledge of the true meaning of the "Final Solution," the Americans refused to bomb the railroad tracks leading to the Auschwitz extermination camp.

During the 1930s, American immigration quotas were very low, and even those were prevented from being filled. In July 1938 President Roosevelt convened the Evian Conference with delegates from 32 countries to discuss the growing European refugee problem. However, not one country, including the United States, was willing to selflessly take in any refugees. All the American delegate would commit to was making the previously unfilled quota for Germans and Austrians available to the new refugees. The American-initiated conference did nothing to help those refugees desperately trying to get out of Europe before it was too late.

After the Kristallnacht pogrom of November 1938.... the United States continued to ignore the refugee problem by refusing to take in or even intercede on behalf of the 937 Jewish refugees sailing on the St. Louis, a ship that had left Germany in May 1939. Those Jews were subsequently turned back to Europe, where most perished in the Holocaust. In 1939 and 1940, a bill to allow 10,000 Jewish children into the United States was never even put to discussion in Congress.

On a personal note, the authors grandfather, a citizen of Slovakia living in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, was denied entry to the U.S. for himself and his family. He ultimately was murdered in the Auschwitz-Birkenau Concentration Camp.

#### Sec. 8: The Kindertransport: Saving Children

There were very few organized efforts by Allied nations to save Jews. One such effort is known as the Kindertransport, which saved approximately 10,000 lives of children. Approximately  $1 \frac{1}{2}$  million Jewish children were murdered by the Nazis.

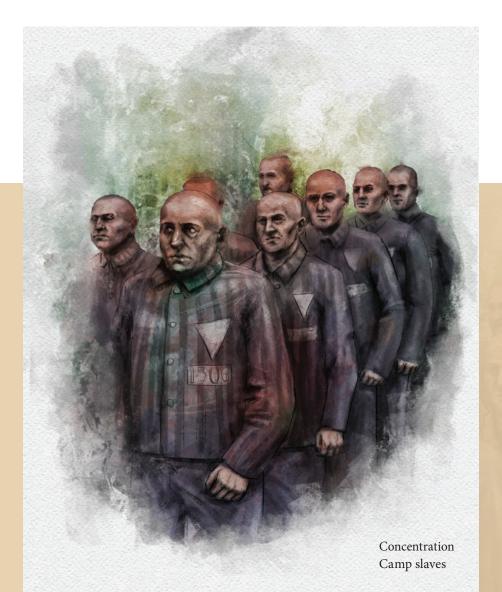
From the website of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, an educational organization funded by the British government:

The Kindertransport (Children's Transport) was a unique humanitarian rescue programme which ran between November 1938 and September 1939. Approximately 10,000 children, the majority of whom were Jewish, were sent from their homes and families in Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia to Great Britain.

Immediately after the Nazis came to power in 1933 the persecution of Jews began. This reached a pre-war peak with Kristallnacht ('the night of Broken Glass') on 9/10 November 1938, when 267 synagogues were destroyed, 91 Jews were killed and 30,000 people were taken to concentration camps.

In response to this night of violence, British Home Secretary Sir Samuel Hoare agreed to speed up the immigration process by issuing travel documents on the basis of group lists rather than individual applications. Strict conditions were placed upon the entry of the children. Jewish and non-Jewish organizations funded the operation and had to ensure that none of the refugees would become a financial burden on the public. Every child had a guarantee of £50 to finance their eventual reemigration. It was assumed at the time that the danger was temporary, and the children would return to their families when it was safe. Adult family members did not accompany the children.

The Movement for the Care of Children from Germany (RCM), sent representatives to Germany and Austria to organize transporting the children. On 25 November, after discussion in the House of Commons, British citizens heard an appeal for foster homes on the BBC Home Service. Soon there were 500 offers, and RCM volunteers started visiting these possible foster homes and reporting on



conditions. They did not insist that prospective homes for Jewish children should be Jewish homes.

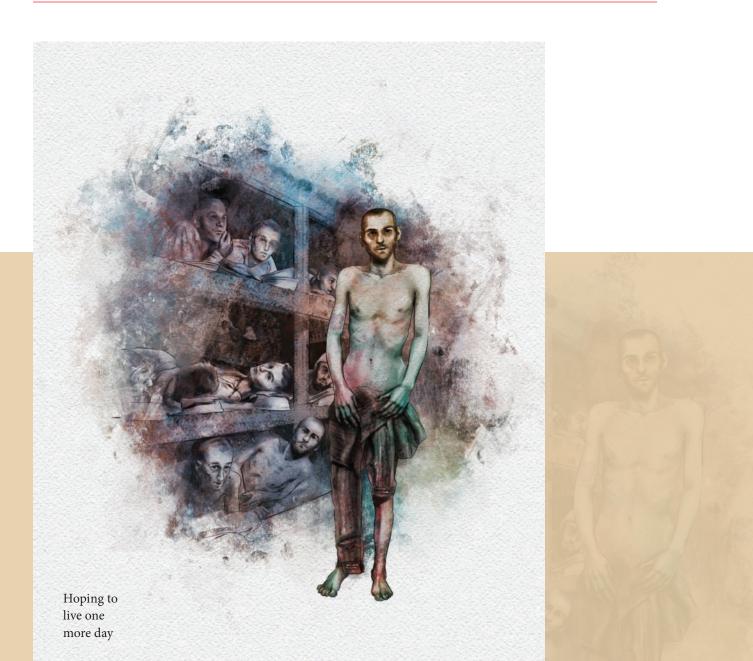
The first Kindertransport from Berlin departed on 1 December 1938, and the first from Vienna on 10 December. In March 1939, after the German army entered Czechoslovakia, transports from Prague were hastily organized. Trains of expelled German Jewish children in Poland were also arranged in February and August 1939.

The last group of children from Germany departed on 1 September 1939, the day the German army

invaded Poland and provoked Great Britain, France, and other countries to declare war. The last known Kindertransport from the Netherlands left on 14 May 1940, the day the Dutch army surrendered to Germany.

After the war ended many of the children stayed in Britain or emigrated to the newly formed State of Israel, America, Canada, or Australia. Most of the children had been orphaned since leaving their homes, losing their families in the ghettos or the camps they had escaped.

## Sec. 9: The Final Solution

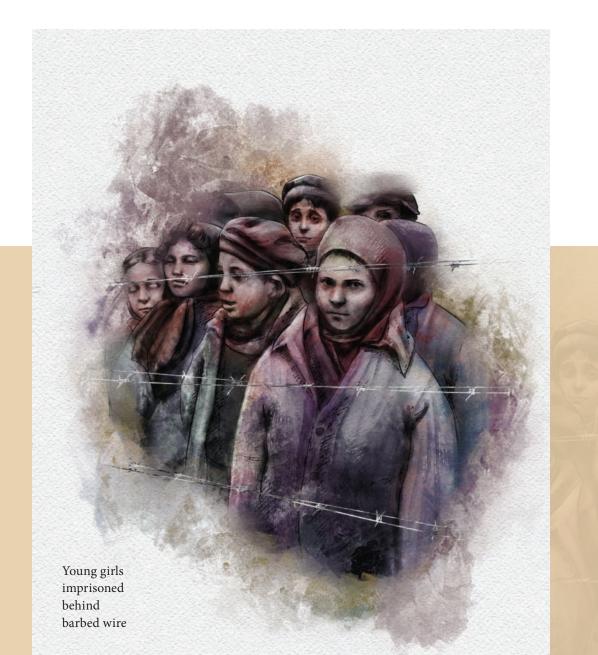


The Final Solution refers to the Nazi plan to destroy all traces of world Jewry, starting in Europe.

The website of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, www.encyclopedia.ushmm.org writes:

What is clear is that the genocide of the Jews was the culmination of a decade of Nazi policy, under the rule of Adolf Hitler. The "Final Solution" was implemented in stages. After the Nazi party rise to power, stateenforced racism resulted in anti-Jewish legislation, boycotts, "Aryanization," and finally the "Night of Broken Glass" pogrom, all of which aimed to remove Jews from German society. After the beginning of World War II, anti-Jewish policy evolved into a comprehensive plan to concentrate and eventually annihilate European Jewry. The Nazis established ghettos in occupied Poland. Polish and western European Jews were deported to these ghettos. During the German invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941, mobile killing squads (Einsatzgruppen) began killing entire Jewish communities. The methods used, mainly shooting or gas vans, were soon regarded as inefficient and as a psychological burden on the killers.

After the Wannsee Conference of January 1942, the Nazis began the systematic deportation of Jews from all over Europe to six extermination camps established in former Polish territory—Chelmno, Belzec, Sobibor, Treblinka, Auschwitz-Birkenau, and Majdanek. Extermination camps were killing centers designed to carry out genocide. About three million Jews were gassed in extermination camps.



In its entirety, the "Final Solution" consisted of gassings, shootings, random acts of terror, disease,

and starvation that accounted for the deaths of about six million Jews- two thirds of European Jewry.

#### Sec. 10: Methods of Murder

From the website of museen der stadt Nurnberg, The Nuremburg Documentation Center website:

To wipe out the large population of Polish Jews, the SS built three death camps near the former Soviet border: Belzec, Sobibor, and Treblinka. More Polish Jews are murdered in death camps at Chelmo, Lublin-Majdanek and Auschwitz-Birkenau.

At Treblinka alone, more than 800,000 Jews were killed between July and October 1942. Ultimately the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp, also known as "Auschwitz II," becomes the hub for the "final solution of the Jewish question in Europe." Here Jews from all over Europe will meet their deaths.... a total of about a million people.

In February and March 1943, 23,000 Sinti and Roma, mainly from the German Reich, are deported to Auschwitz and isolated in the "Gypsy Camp" there. Most die of hunger and disease; the last 3,000 survivors are sent to the gas chambers in August 1944.

A total of at least six million of the Jews who fall into German hands lose their lives- from manslaughter, murder, forced labor, malnutrition and disease. Somewhat more than half die in the death camps. The total number of Sinti and Roma who were killed is still uncertain, but estimates range between 100,000 and 500,000. Concentration camps vs. extermination centers: based on the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum website:

The main difference between concentration camps (where prisoners of various nationalities were incarcerated) and extermination centers (where nearly all the victims were Jewish) was the method of annihilation. The final goal- the physical elimination of the victims- remained the same in both types of camps.

Concentration camps used hunger and physical exhaustion as the main method of murder. The death of prisoners was also accelerated by lack of proper clothing, rest, medical care, poor sanitary conditions, and insufficient living conditions.

Extermination centers killed their victims immediately upon their arrival to the camp, in the gas chambers. Author's note: In the Birkenau concentration camp, trainloads of victims would arrive, get off the trains, and then undergo a "selection" in which the SS would select some to be admitted into the camp as slave laborers while selecting others to go immediately to their deaths. The new arrivals would be processed by removing all their clothing and possessions and having their heads shaven. Finally, those selected for immediate death were taken into the gas chambers. A gas chamber would kill thousands of victims at one time. The bodies were then removed and sent to the crematoria.

## Sec. 11: Death camp and slave camp: Auschwitz-Birkeanau and The Ravensbruck Slave Camp for Women

From www.weinerlibrary.co.uk The Weiner Library for the Study of Holocaust and Genocide:

Auschwitz-Birkenau is the most famous of the Nazi camps. It was a massive concentration, forced labor,

and extermination camp at the center of a network of more than 40 satellite camps.

The first Auschwitz camp (Auschwitz 1) was established by the Germans in 1940, in the suburbs of the town of Oswiecim, less than 40 miles south of Krakow in the south of Poland. It was originally designed to house political prisoners.

As part of the 'Final Solution' the Nazis began building Auschwitz-Birkenau in the autumn of 1941 on the site of the village of Brzezinka, less than two miles from Auschwitz 1. The local population was evicted from their homes. Their houses were demolished and used as building materials for the new camp.

Auschwitz-Birkenau operated as a death camp between March 1942 and January 1945.

Upwards of 80 percent of those Jews transported to Auschwitz-Birkenau were selected for immediate death. The remainder was selected for work. The majority of those selected to work died within a few weeks or months of their arrival at the camp as a result of overwork, mistreatment, disease or lack of food.

Ravesnbruck: The Concentration Camp for Women

From The Holocaust Encyclopedia, encyclopedia. ushmm.org The US Holocaust Memorial Museum

The Ravensbruck concentration camp was the largest concentration camp for women in the German Reich. In the concentration camp system, Ravensbruck was second in size only to the women's camp in Auschwitz-Birkenau. After the closure of the Lichtenburg camp in 1939, Ravensbruck was also the only main concentration camp, as opposed to subcamp, designed almost exclusively for women.

German authorities began construction of the camp in November 1938, at a site near the village of Ravensbruck in northern Germany. It was about 50 miles north of Berlin.

The first prisoners interned at Ravensbruck were approximately 900 women whom the SS had

transferred from the Lichtenburg women's concentration camp in Saxony in May 1939. By the end of 1942, the female inmate population of Ravensbruck had grown to about 10,000. In January 1945, the camp had more than 50,000 prisoners, mostly women.

The inmates came from over 30 countries. The greatest numbers came from Poland (36%), the German Reich (18% includes Austria), Hungary (8%) France (6%) Czechoslovakia (3%) the Benelux countries (2%) and Yugoslavia (2%).

SS authorities enslaved various types of prisoners in Ravensbruck, including:

- Political prisoners
- "asocials"- among the prisoners deemed to fit this category were many Roma (Gypsies)
- Jews
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- "criminals"
- "work-shy"
- Race defilers

Aside from the male SS administrators, the camp staff included only female guards assigned to oversee the prisoners.

Food rations for prisoners were meager at the outset, and the amount and quality of food the camp authorities allotted each prisoner decreased further after 1941. By January 1945 the barracks were horribly overcrowded. This overcrowding, aggravated by abominable sanitary conditions, resulted in a typhus epidemic that spread throughout the camp.

Periodically, the SS authorities subjected prisoners in the camp to "selections" in which the Germans isolated those prisoners considered too weak or injured to work and killed them. At first, "selected" prisoners were shot. Beginning in 1942.... The SS sent around 1600 female prisoners and 300 male prisoners to their deaths at the Bernberg gas chambers... around half of these prisoners were Jewish, at least 25 were Roma (Gypsies) and at least 13 were Jehovah's Witnesses. The SS staff also murdered prisoners in the camp infirmary by lethal injection. In early 1945, the SS constructed a gas chamber in Ravensbruck near the camp crematorium. The Germans gassed between 5,000 and 6,000 prisoners at Ravensbruck before Soviet troops liberated the camp in April 1945.

In 1942 the SS began to force women in Ravensbruck to work in brothels.

In the summer of 1942, SS medical doctors subjected prisoners at Ravensbruck to unethical medical experiments.

The SS required Ravensbruck prisoners to perform forced labor, primarily in agricultural projects and local industry. By 1944, Germany increasingly relied on forced labor for the production of armaments.

#### Sec. 12: Jewish Uprisings and Partisan Resistance

Jewish armed resistance to the Nazis took two major forms: ghetto uprisings and partisan paramilitary movements in the woods.

The most famous ghetto uprising was the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

From The Holocaust Encyclopedia of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum website:





In October 1942, SS chief Heinrich Himmler ordered the liquidation of the Warsaw ghetto and deportation of the able-bodied residents to forced labor camps in the Lublin District of the Generalgouvernmement. In accordance with this order, German SS and police units tried to resume mass deportations of Jews from Warsaw on January 18, 1943. A group of Jewish fighters, armed with pistols, infiltrated a column of Jews being forced to the Umschlagplatz (transfer point) and, at a prearranged signal, broke ranks and fought their German escorts. Most of these Jewish fighters died in the battle, but the attack sufficiently disoriented the Germans to allow the Jews arranged in the columns at the Umschlagplatz a chance to disperse. After seizing 5,000-6,500 ghetto residents to be deported, the Germans suspended further deportations on January 21.

On April 19, 1943, the Warsaw ghetto uprising began after German troops and police entered the ghetto to deport its surviving inhabitants. By May 16, 1943, the Germans had crushed the uprising and left the ghetto area in ruins. Surviving ghetto residence were deported to concentration camps or killing centers.

Armed Jewish Resistance: Partisans From the Holocaust Encyclopedia, US Holocaust Memorial Museum website:

Despite great obstacles, Jews throughout occupied Europe attempted armed resistance against the Germans and their Axis partners. They faced overwhelming odds and desperate scenarios, including lack of weapons and training, operating in hostile zones, parting from family members, and facing an ever-present Nazi terror. Yet, thousands resisted by joining or forming partisan units.

Jewish resistance units operated in France, Belgium, the Ukraine, Belorussia, Lithuania, and Poland. Jews also fought in general French, Italian, Yugoslav, Greek, and Soviet resistance organizations.

There were even uprisings in the killing centers of Treblinka, Sobibor, and Auschwitz during 1943-1944.

In France, the "Armee Juive" (Jewish Army), a French Jewish partisan group, was founded in Toulouse in January 1942. Composed of members of Zionist youth movements, the Jewish Army operated in and around Toulouse, Nice, Lyon, and Paris. Its members smuggled money from Switzerland into France to assist Jews in hiding, smuggled at least 500 Jews and non-Jews into neutral Spain, and took part in the 1944 uprisings against the Germans in Paris, Lyon, and Toulouse.

In Belgium, a combined Jewish and non-Jewish resistance unit derailed a deportation train in April 1943. On July 25, 1942, Jewish resisters attacked and burned the files of the organization that the Nazis had forced on the Jews of Belgium. Jews were also active in the Dutch and Italian underground movements.

#### Sec. 13: Spiritual Resistance During the Holocaust

From an article written by Yael Weinstock Mashbaum for the Yad Vashem website:

In Holocaust terminology, "spiritual resistance" refers to attempts by individuals to maintain their humanity and core values in spite of Nazi dehumanization and degradation. Such unarmed resistance came in many forms, religious and non-religious, cultural and educational. It proved that physical survival was not the only decisive quality of a person and it certainly was not the only matter of importance even to people in the most dire conditions.

During the years of the "Final Solution" between 1942 and 1945, Jews and several groups of non-Jews targeted by the Nazi regime were interned, enslaved, humiliated, and exterminated in ghettos, concentration camps, and death camps. Finding food, staying warm, providing a roof over their heads, and taking care of their families were difficult challenges that they had to meet on a daily basis. Nazi restrictions and modes of degradation were definitely aimed to physically destroy. However, the isolation of ghetto life was intended to incur social separation in addition to controlling and monitoring Jews. It was under these circumstances that some Jews "found within themselves the inner strength to examine their situation and to try and find meaning in the events that controlled their very existence.

Others established cultural programs in ghettos and concentration camps as they realized that physical sustenance would not be the sole route to survival. Such religious, cultural, and educational activities are termed "spiritual resistance," for resistance is not only the struggle against, but it is also the struggle for. In ghettos and camps, Jews struggled for humanity, for culture, for normalcy, and for life.

Examples of Spiritual Resistance during the Holocaust include creating libraries, celebrating Jewish holidays as best possible, musical performances, writing poetry and creating artwork. It also includes going to ones death with dignity. Slave laborers also did their best to sabotage Nazi efforts. For example, the author's mother often told him how, when forced to make bullets for the Nazi war effort, she tried to make the bullets off-kilter as to render them ineffective.

#### Sec. 14: Mass Murder of Children

From the US Holocaust Memorial Museum website:

Along with elderly people, children had the lowest rate of survival in concentration camps and killing centers. People over fifty years of age, pregnant women, and young children were immediately sent to the gas chambers at Auschwitz-Birkenau and other killing centers.

The Germans and their collaborators killed as many as 1.5 million children. This number included over a million Jewish children and tens of thousands of Romani (Gypsy) children, German children with physical and mental disabilities living in institutions, Polish children, and children residing in the occupied Soviet Union. Some Jewish and some non-Jewish adolescents (13-18 years old) had a greater chance of survival as they could be used for forced labor.

The fates of Jewish and non-Jewish children can be categorized in the following ways:

Children killed when they arrived in killing centers

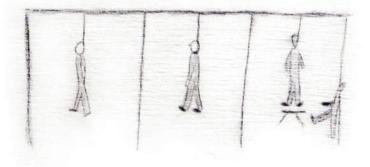
Children killed immediately after birth or in institutions

Children born in ghettos and camps who survived because prisoners hid them

Children, usually over age 12, who were used as laborers and as subjects of medical experiments

Children killed during reprisal operations or so-called anti-partisan operations.

In the ghettos, Jewish children died from starvation, exposure, and a lack of adequate clothing and shelter. The German authorities were indifferent to this mass death. They considered most of the younger children to be unproductive and hence "useless eaters." Because children were generally too young to be used for forced labor, German authorities generally selected them, the elderly, ill, and disabled, for the first deportations to killing centers, or as the first victims led to mass graves to be shot.



# Sec. 15: Did the German People Know about the Mass Murder of Jews during the War?

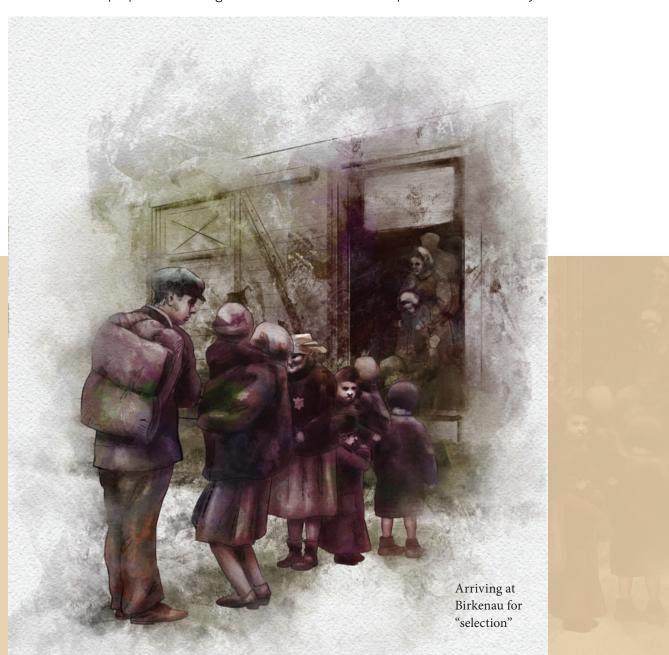
From The Guardian, article by John Ezard, Fri. 16 Feb. 2001

Germans knew of Holocaust horror about death camps.

Details of deaths of Jews and other groups in concentration camps were well publicized.

The mass of ordinary Germans did know about the evolving terror of Hitler's Holocaust, according to a new research study. They knew concentration camps were full of Jewish people who were stigmatized as sub-human and race-defilers. They knew that these, like other groups and minorities, were being killed out of hand.

They knew that Adolf Hitler had repeatedly forecast the extermination of every Jew on German soil. They knew these details because they had read about them. They knew because the camps and the measures which led up to them had been prominently and proudly reported step by step in thousands of officially-inspired German media articles and posters according to the study, which is due to be published simultaneously in Britain and the



US early next month and which was described as ground-breaking by Oxford University Press yesterday and already hailed by other historians.

The reports, in newspapers and magazines all over the country were phases in a public process of "desensitization" which worked all too well, culminating in the killing of 6m Jews, says Robert Gellately. His book, Backing Hitler, is based on the first systematic analysis by a historian of surviving German newspapers and magazine archives since 1933, the year Hitler became chancellor. The survey took hundreds of hours and yielded dozens of folders of photocopies, many of them from the 24 main newspapers and magazines of the period.

Its results, Professor Gellately says, destroy the claim- generally made by Germans after Berlin fell in 1945 and accepted by most historians- that they did not know about camp atrocities. He concludes by indicating that the only thing many Germans may not have known about was the use of industrial-scale gas chambers because, unusually, no media reports were allowed of this "final solution". However, by the end of the war camps were all over the country and many Germans worked in them.

#### Sec. 16: Two Countries That Defied the Nazis': Albania and Denmark

It is the contention of the author that Albania and Denmark prove that the Nazi's were successful in killing Jews when they had the help of local collaborators. Where the locals did not assist, as in Albania and Denmark, the Nazi's failed.

From the Yad Vashem website, written by Yael Weinstock Mashbaum:

Almost all the Jews of Albania during the Second World War were saved from Hitler's "Final Solution." This is remarkable and a circumstance that cannot be found in any other occupied country in Europe.

A Jewish presence existed in Albania since the second century C.E., when a wave of Romaniote Jews from Greece immigrated to Albania, with their unique customs and traditions. At the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century during the Spanish Inquisition, the Turkish Sultan invited the Jews to live under Moslem rule in the Ottoman Empire and this brought Sephardic Jews to Albania..... Jews continued to emigrate from Greece in the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, arriving in Albania, settling in Vlora.

Before the 1930's some two hundred Jews lived in Albania. With Hitler's rise to power and an increase in anti-Semitic activities, Jews felt threatened in their own countries and began migrating from their homes in western and central Europe. By the outbreak of World War II, between 600 and 1,800 refugees arrived in Albania, from Germany Austria, Serbia, Greece, and Yugoslavia, on their way to the United States, South America, Turkey, and Palestine.

When the Italians arrived (to occupy militarily) in Albania they announced some anti-Jewish rules, but the restrictions were not nearly as harsh or severe as those in German occupied countries.

In September 1943, after the change in Italy's government, Albania came under German control. The Germans requested a list of Jews living Albania, and the Albanian refused, reassuring the Jews that they would be protected in their country.

Albania, the only European country with a Muslim majority, committed itself to saving all of its Jewish inhabitants. Almost all Jews living within Albanian borders during the German occupation, those of Albanian origin and refugees alike, were saved, except members of a single family. Ultimately, there were more Jews in Albania at the end of the war than before. Denmark: from The Holocaust Encyclopedia, the website of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Most individuals in occupied Europe did not actively collaborate in the Nazi genocide. Nor did they do anything to help Jews and other victims of Nazi policies. Throughout the Holocaust, millions of people silently stood by while they saw Jews, Roma (Gypsies), and other "enemies of the Reich" being rounded up and deported. Many of these bystanders told themselves that what they saw happening was none of their business. Others were too frightened to help. In many places, providing shelter to Jews was a crime punishable by death.

In spite of the risks, a small number of individuals refused to stand by and watch. These people had the courage to help by providing hiding places, underground escape routes, false papers, food, clothing, money, and sometimes even weapons.

Denmark was the only occupied country that actively resisted the Nazi regime's attempts to deport its Jewish citizens. On September 28, 1943, Georg Ferdinand Duckwitz, a German diplomat, secretly informed the Danish resistance that the Nazis' were planning to deport the Danish Jews. The Danes responded quickly, organizing a nationwide effort to smuggle the Jews by sea to neutral Sweden. Warned of the German plans, Jews began to leave Copenhagen, where most of the almost 8,000 Jews in Denmark lived, and other cities, by train, car, and on foot. With the help of the Danish people, they found hiding places in homes, hospitals, and churches. Within a two-week period fishermen helped ferry some 7,200 Danish Jews and 680 non-Jewish family members to safety across the narrow body of water separating Denmark from Sweden.

The Danes proved that widespread support for Jews and resistance to Nazi policies could save lives.

#### Sec. 17: Non-Jewish Victims of Nazi Murder

From the The Jewish Virtual Library.org www. jewishvirtuallibrary.org Published by the American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise (AICE):

Poles: In Poland, Hitler saw an agricultural land in close proximity to Germany, populated by modest but strong and healthy farmers. Hitler quickly took control of Poland by specifically wiping out the Polish leading class—the Intelligentsia. During the next few years, millions of other Polish citizens were rounded up and either placed in slave labor for German farmers and factories or taken to concentration camps where many were either starved and worked to death or used for scientific experiments.

...Non-Jews (in Poland) were made prisoners inside their own country. No one was allowed out. The Germans took over the ranches, farms and Polish factories. Most healthy citizens were forced into slave labor. Young Polish men were drafted into the German army. Blond haired children were "Germanized" and trained from an early age to be Nazi supporters.

Jehovah's Witnesses: Every European country, even Germany, had those who did not believe in the Nazi ideology and who were willing to die for their beliefs. Perhaps no other group stood so firmly in their beliefs as the Jehovah's Witnesses. Hitler felt particularly threatened by the strong group of Christians because they, from the very beginning, refused to recognize any God other than Jehovah.

When asked to sign documents of loyalty to the Nazi ideology, they refused. Jehovah's Witnesses were forced to wear purple armbands and thousands were imprisoned as "dangerous" traitors because they refused to take a pledge of loyalty to the Third Reich.

Roma Gypsies: The Germans believed both the Jews and the Gypsies were racially inferior and degenerate and therefore worthless. The Gypsies were also moved into special areas set up by the Nazis and half a million of them- representing almost the entire Eastern European Gypsy (Roma) population-was wiped out during the Holocaust.

Courageous Resistors: Poland's underground army- made up of children, teenagers, men and women-was responsible for defending the lives of thousands of its Jewish and non-Jewish citizens. Many were killed for their acts of courage against the Nazis.

Priests and Pastors: Hitler wanted not only to conquer all of Europe, but Hitler wanted to create a new religion and to replace Jesus Christ as a person to be worshipped. Hitler expected his followers to worship the Nazi ideology. Since Catholic priests and Christian pastors were often influential leaders in their community, they were sought out by the Nazis very early. Thousands of Catholic priests and Christian pastors were forced into concentration camps. A special barracks was set up at Dachau, the camp near Munich, Germany, for clergymen. A few survived; some were executed, but most were allowed to die slowly of starvation or disease.

Homosexuals: Because Hitler's plan for a great Master Race had no room for any homosexuals, many males from all nations, including Germany, were persecuted, tortured and executed. Hitler even searched his own men and found suspected homosexuals that were sent to concentration camps wearing their SS uniforms and medals. The homosexual inmates were forced to wear pink triangles on the clothes so they could be easily recognized and further humiliated inside the camps. Between 5,000 to 15,000 homosexuals died in the concentration camps during the Holocaust.

Disabled: The Nazis decided that it was a waste of time and money to support the disabled. During Hitler's "cleansing program", thousands of people with various handicaps were deemed useless and simply put to death like dogs and cats.

Sterilization of Black Children: ...during WW1, black African soldiers were brought in by the French during the Allied occupation (of Germany). Some of these black soldiers married white German women that bore children referred to as "Rhineland Bastards, or the "Black Disgrace".

...The Nazis set up a secret group to organize the sterilization of these "Rhineland Bastards" in order to keep intact the purity of the Aryan race. In 1937, all local authorities in Germany were to submit a list of all the mulattos. Then, these children were taken from their homes and schools without parental permission and put before the commission. Once a child was decided to be of black descent, the child was taken immediately to a hospital and sterilized. About 400 children were medically sterilized—many times without their parents' knowledge.

Intermarriage to Jews: Death or Divorce

Many husbands and wives of Jews in Germany were forced to choose between divorce or concentration camps. Hitler would not allow "interracial" marriages. Those that chose to remain married were punished by imprisonment in camps where many died.

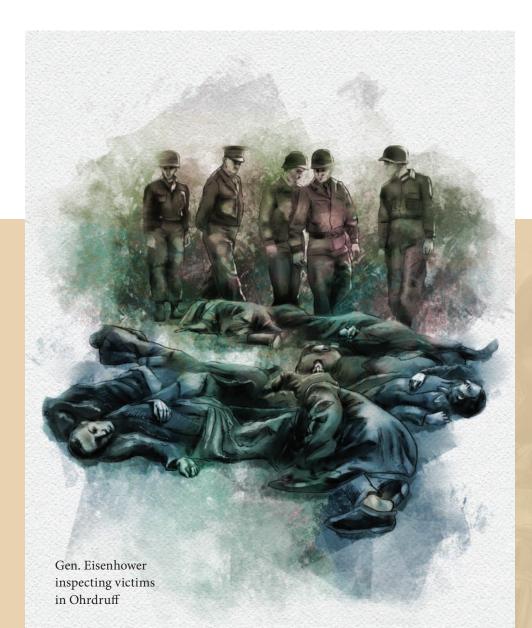
#### Sec. 18: Allied Armed Forces liberate concentration camps

From the US Holocaust Memorial Museum website, the Holocaust Encyclopedia: Liberation

Soviet soldiers were the first to liberate concentration camp prisoners in the final stages of the war. On July 23, 1944, they entered the Majdanek camp in Poland, and later overran several other killing centers. On January 27, 1945, they entered Auschwitz and there found hundreds of sick and exhausted prisoners. The Germans had been forced to leave these prisoners behind in their hasty retreat from the camp. Also left behind were victims' belongings: 348,820 men's suites, 836,255 women's coats, and tens of thousands of pairs of shoes. British, Canadian, American, and French troops also freed prisoners from the camps. The Americans were responsible for liberating Buchenwald and Dachau, while British forces entered Bergen-Belsen. Although the Germans had attempted to empty the camps of surviving prisoners and hide all evidence of their crimes, the Allied soldiers came upon thousands of dead bodies "stacked up like cordwood," according to one American soldier. The prisoners who were still alive were living skeletons.

Allied troops, physicians, and relief workers tried to provide nourishment for the surviving prisoners, but many of them were too weak to digest food and could not be saved. In spite of the liberators' efforts, many camp survivors died. Half of the prisoners discovered alive in Auschwitz died within a few days of being freed. Survivors had mixed reactions to their newfound freedom. While a few looked forward to being reunited with other family members, some felt guilty for surviving when so many of their relatives and friends had died. Some felt overwhelmed, as one survivor, Victor Frankl, a psychiatrist, expressed:

"Timidly, we looked around and glanced at each other questioningly. Then we ventured a few steps out of the camp. This time no orders were shouted at us, nor was there any need to duck quickly to avoid a blow or a kick. 'Freedom,' we repeated to ourselves, and yet we could not grasp it."



### Sec. 19: Gen. Eisenhower and Holocaust Denial

The first slave-labor death camp liberated by US troops was a camp called Ohrdruff, in central Germany. The author's father, Pvt. Harry Meyerowitz, was one of the US soldiers to enter the camp.

From the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Holocaust Encyclopedia: Ohrdruff

In late March 1945, the camp had a prisoner population of some 11,700, but in early April the SS evacuated almost all the prisoners on death marches to Buchenwald. The SS guards killed many of the remaining prisoners who were too ill to walk to the railcars.

When the soldiers of the 4<sup>th</sup> Armored Division entered the camp, they discovered piles of bodies, some covered with lime, and other partially incinerated on pyres.

The ghastly nature of their discovery led General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander of the

Allied Forces in Europe, to visit the camp on April12, with Generals George S. Patton and Omar Bradley. After his visit, Eisenhower cabled General George C. Marshall, the head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, describing his trip to Ohrdruff:

...The visual evidence and the verbal testimony of starvation, cruelty and bestiality were so overpowering as to leave me a bit sick. In one room, where they were piled up twenty or thirty naked men, killed by starvation, George Patton would not even enter. He said that he would get sick if he did so. I made the visit deliberately, in order to be in a position to give first-hand evidence of these things if ever, in the future, there develops a tendency to charge these allegations merely to "propaganda."

Ohrdruf made a powerful impression on General George S. Patton as well. He described it as "one of the most appalling sights that I have ever seen."

#### Sec. 20: The numbers killed by country:

From the website of the Museum of Tolerance of the Simon Wiesenthal Center:

Austria	50,000	Norway	762
Italy	7,680	Finland	7
Belgium	28,900	Poland	3,000,000
Latvia	71,500	France	77,320
Bohemia/Moravia	78,150	Romania	287,000
Lithuania	143,000	Slovakia	71,000
Bulgaria	0	Greece	67,000
Luxembourg	1,950	Soviet Union	1,100,000
Denmark	60	Hungary	569,000
Netherlands	100,000	Yugoslavia	63,300
Estonia	2,000		

#### Sec. 21: Charter of the International Military Tribunal

From Yale Law School, The Avalon Project website: http://avalon.law.yale.edu/imt/imtconst.asp

As World War II in Europe ended, the Allies, consisting of the United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and the Provisional Government of France adopted procedures for the trial and punishment of Axis affiliated individuals.

Among the crimes were (Sec. 2 Article 6,):

(a) CRIMES AGAINST PEACE: namely planning, preparation, initiation or waging a war of aggression, or a war in violation of international treaties, agreements or assurances, or participation in a common plan to conspiracy for the accomplishment of any of the foregoing:

(b) WAR CRIMES: namely, violations of the laws or customs of war. Such violations shall include, but not be limited to, murder, ill-treatment or deportation to slave labor or for any other purpose of civilian population of or in occupied territory, murder or ill-treatment of prisoners of war or persons on the seas, killing of hostages, plunder of public or private property, wanton destruction of cities, towns, or villages, or devastation not justified by military necessity;

(c) CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY: namely, murder, extermination, enslavement, deportation, and other inhumane acts committed against any civilian population, before or during the war; or persecution on political, racial, or religious grounds in execution of or in connection with any crime within the jurisdiction of the Tribunal, whether or not in violation of the domestic law of the country where perpetrated. Leaders, organizers, instigators and accomplices participating in the formulation or execution of a common plan or conspiracy to commit any of the foregoing crimes are responsible for all acts performed by any person in execution of such plan.

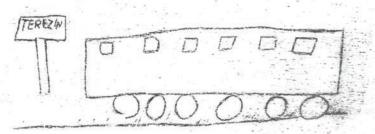
The Nuremberg Trials From: The Holocaust Encyclopedia of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum website:

After the war, some of those responsible for crimes committed during the Holocaust were brought to trial. Nuremberg, Germany, was chosen as a site for trials that took place in 1945 and 1946. Judges from the Allied powers- Great Britain, France, the Soviet Union, and the United States- presided over the hearings of twenty –two major Nazi criminals.

Twelve prominent Nazis were sentenced to death. Most of the defendants admitted to the crimes of which they were accused, although most claimed that they were simply following the orders of a higher authority. Those individuals directly involved in the killing received the most severe sentences. Other people who played key roles in the Holocaust, including high-level government officials, and business executives who used concentration camp inmates as forced- laborers, received short prison sentences or no penalty at all.

The Nazis' highest authority, the person most to blame for the Holocaust, was missing at the trials. Adolf Hitler had committed suicide in the final days of the war, as had several of his closest aides. Many more criminals were never tried. Some fled Germany to live abroad, including hundreds who came to the United States.





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## Sec. 22: Genocide for Profit: Looted Art

#### From the Jewish Virtual Library

During World War II, Nazi Germany led a systematic campaign to loot and plunder art from Jews and others in the occupied countries. Much of the stolen art was recovered by the Allies in the immediate aftermath of the war, however, thousands of valuable art pieces were not returned to their rightful owners or were never relocated. In the decades following the Holocaust, a concerted international effort was undertaken to identify Nazi plunder that still remains unaccounted for with the aim of ultimately returning the items to the rightful owners or their families.

The Third Reich amassed hundreds of thousands of pieces of artwork-worth billions of dollars- and stored them throughout Germany. Other pieces deemed "degenerate" were legally banned from entering Germany so Hermann Goering and Joseph Goebbels tasked a number of dealers with liquidating these assets overseas and passing the funds back for the Nazi war effort.

From the author: Much artwork stolen from Jews by the Nazis remain lost or are in the hands of institutions, museums, or individuals who resist returning them to heirs or rightful authorities. The Nazis wiped out entire families and destroyed all records of their assets. No heirs exist and no provenance can be established. These artworks stolen during the process of genocide will forever remain a victory for the Nazis.



#### Sec. 23: Poems of the Holocaust

There are various poetry books available with poems written by Holocaust victims who perished, survivors, and descendents.

Here are two poems written by unknown poets that were found in the papers of the author's mother after she died. They were published in a collection of poems called "When You Say Goodbye: Lost Poems of the Holocaust." Please contact Mark Meyerowitz for a copy of the poems booklet. <u>markmeyerowitz7@gmail.com</u>

#### Auschwitz Song

Between the Sola and Vistula crammed Between swamps, guard chains, barbed wire Lies Auschwitz Concentration Camp, the cursed nest That inmates hate like an evil plague. Where there is malaria, typhus and other things Where great anguish eats at your heart, Where thousands upon thousands are imprisoned Far from their homeland, far from wife and child. You see rows of buildings rise built by inmates Through storm and rain you have to carry bricks and sand Block after block springs up, for thousands of men All this for those yet to come. Sadly you see columns pass you by You can often see fathers, brothers there You aren't allowed to say hello, that will mean their death To do so you involuntarily increase their woe. Sadly you see the columns walk by The commands resound on the left, two three You have no right to say anything here. When you often want to scream for help. Along with lice and fleas, fever rages, Many thousands have already perished miserably, Indeed you are tormented here night and day And your every step is watched by guards. Father, mother are you home now? No one suspects our heartache Here you are only allowed to dream of a home From where fate shamelessly drove you out. Should I never see you again, my country And like so many thousands go up the chimney, Hail, my beloved family and friends there Think of me from time to time, who was forced to leave.

Written by a Slovakian girl in 1942, who was among the first transports to Auschwitz. Translated into English.

#### Who Is Poor?

Who is poor like the bodies Which are cold and dead? Because even their lives Belong to the band. Whose nerves are spoiled? Whose clothes always wet? Whose parents were burnt? Whose brothers went mad? Whose fate is dark? Who is looking for light? Whose friend has stolen His shoes in the night? Whose uniformed head Is full of ideas? Whose heart is of stone. Whose eyes have no tears? Who is hungry and thirsty And tired of life? And who wrote this poem Has got twenty five... (lashes)

#### Anochuitz-Laca

Wischen Sein und der Weislast schen verstaut wischen Müssten, Perkanstke "Drittvetken Lieft Gas Mi Auschnitz, das verfigente Hert Des der Hörtling hasset, wie die Des Pest

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Vorfannt von den alovaltischen Hädehen im E. L. anseindt 27 in Johre 1949 von den evelen Evensporten.

#### Sec. 24: No Peace for the Weary: Survivors face chaos after the war

From the US Holocaust Memorial Museum website:

By 1945, most European Jews-two out of every three-had been killed. Most of the surviving remnant of European Jewry decided to leave Europe. Hundreds of thousands established new lives in Israel, the United States, Canada, Australia, Great Britain, South America, and South Africa.

According to the American Jewish Yearbook, the Jewish population of Europe was about 9.5 million. In1950, the Jewish population of Europe was about 3.5 million.

Most of the remaining European Jewish population lived in Russia, France, and England, with small populations scattered around the rest of Europe.

Some Jews attempted to return to their homes in Poland but where met with strong anti-Semitic elements. In 1946 a pogrom killed 47 Jews in one day in the town of Kielce, Poland.

From Smithsonian.com: quoting historian Jan T. Gross:

That day, Jewish men and women were stoned, robbed, beaten with rifles, stabbed with bayonets, and hurled into a river that flowed nearby. Yet while other Kielce residents walked by, none did anything to stop it. It wasn't until noon that another group of soldiers was sent in to break up the crowd and evacuate the wounded and dead. In the afternoon a group of metal workers ran toward the building, armed with iron bars and other weapons. The residents of 7 Planty were relieved; they thought these men came to help. Instead the metal workers began brutally attacking and killing those still alive inside the building. Britain placed strict, low quotas on the number of Jews allowed entry into Palestine, the ancient Jewish homeland.

In 1939 Britain, which held a League of Nations mandate to occupy and administer Palestine, issued a White Paper which severely restricted the number of Jewish survivors of the Holocaust who would be permitted to enter Palestine. The British declared that only 75,000 Jews would be permitted to enter Palestine in the next five years (the starting date for that rule is assumed to have been 1939). The White Paper also gave the British administration broad authority to cut off Jewish immigration entirely.

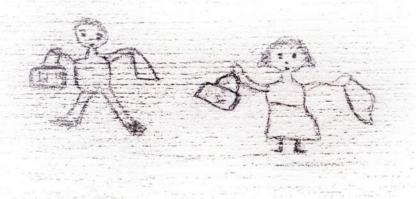
As a result, Jewish Holocaust survivors began attempts to enter Palestine "illegally."

A famous incident of a failed attempt to move survivors into Palestine was the saga of the refugee ship known as the Exodus. With approximately 4,500 survivors on board, the British military boarded the ship. Fighting ensued, and a number of survivors and an American volunteer where killed. The British subdued the ship and forced the survivors to return to France, from where they had left.

The British never lifted their restrictions on Holocaust survivors entering Palestine. In May 1948, after intensive fighting between Jewish, Arab, and British forces, the British left Palestine.

## Sec. 25: A short list of sources of information about the Holocaust

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum online: the Holocaust Encyclopedia www.ushmm.org The Weiner Library for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide www.the holocaustexplained.org Geared to high school students Alphahistory.com 19th century anti-Semitism www.history.com/anti-semitism The Nuremberg Documentation Center museen der stadt Nurnberg Schoolhistory.org.uk www.britannica.com Yad Vashem (the official Holocaust museum of the State of Israel) www.yadvashem.org The Jewish Virtual Library www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org Museum of Tolerance of the Simon Wiesenthal Center www.wiesenthal.com Yale Law School, The Avalon Project Holocaust and Humanity Center, Cincinnati, Ohio www.holocaustandhumanity.org Birmingham Holocaust Education Center, Burlington, Alabama Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, Skokie, Ill. www.ilholocaustmuseum.org The Florida Holocaust Museum, St. Petersburg Fla. www.flholocaustmuseum.org Holocaust Memorial Center, Farmington Hills, MI The Holocaust Documentation Center, Dania Beach, Fla. Holocaust Memorial Resource Center, Maitland, Fla. www.holocaustedu.org Virginia Holocaust Museum, Richmond, Va. www.vaholocaust.org The Olga Lengyel Institute, New York, NY www.toli.us Holocaust Museum Houston, Houston, Tx. The Breman Museum, Atlanta, Ga. www.thebreman.org Candles Holocaust Museum and Educ. Center, Terra Haute, IN The Holocaust Center for Humanity, Seattle, WA Dallas Holocaust Museum, Dallas, TX Oregon Jewish Museum and Center, Portland, OR Bornstein Holocaust Education Center, Providence, RI Jewish Holocaust Center, Elsternwick, Australia Father Desbois, Yahad-In Unum, www.yahadinunum.org South Florida Holocaust and Documentation Center http://hdec.org Cchange: Center for Holocaust, Human Rights and Genocide (NJ) www.cchange.org Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial Museum www.auschwitz.org/en



Sec. 26: Quotes about the Holocaust

"These were young children who were forced, in the course of one day, to fill the grave and to witness. They heard the last words of the dead. They want to speak."

**Father Patrick Desbois** 

"None has suffered more cruelly than the Jew the unspeakable evils wrought upon the bodies and spirits of men by Hitler and his vile regime. The Jew bore the brunt of the Nazi's first onslaught upon the citidels of freedom and human dignity. He has borne and continued to bear a burden that might have seen beyond endurance. He has not allowed it to break his spirit; he has never lost the will to resist. Assuredly in the day of victory the Jew's suffering and his part in the struggle will not be forgotten."

**Winston Churchill** 

From the BBC website, Churchill and the Holocaust, by Sir Martin Gilbert "Get it all on record now-get the films-get the witnessesbecause somewhere down the road of history some bastard will get up and say that this never happened."

**General Dwight D. Eisenhower** 

"How does one mourn for six million people who died? How many candles does one light? How many prayers does one recite? Do we know how to remember the victims, their solitude, their helplessness? They left us without a trace, and we are their trace."

**Elie Wiesel** 

"What did my father ever do to the Nazis that they had to kill him?"

**Ruth Krautwirth Meyerowitz** 



