

Bystanders, Resistance, Rescue and Aftermath

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Jewish Men
arrested and
paraded
through town
by SA after
Kristallnacht,
Oldenburg
November 10
1938

Source:
USHMM

Outline

- (1) Bystanders, Beneficiaries, Perpetrators
- (2) Resisters and Rescuers
- (3) The Aftermath of the Holocaust
- (4) Resources and Bibliography

(1) Bystanders, Beneficiaries, Perpetrators

Key Terms:

„Catastrophic Gradualism“ (Frank Trommler)

Social Death of Jews (Marion Kaplan)

Bystanders (Raul Hilberg)

Beneficiaries (Götz Aly)

Perpetrators (Ordinary Germans: Christopher Browning;

Wehrmacht: Felix Römer)

Catastrophic Gradualism: Failed Boycott of Jewish Shops, April 1933



Bundesarchiv, Bild 183-R70355
Foto: o. Ang. | 1933

Nazi Boycott of Jewish Shops, April 1933. Note the propagandists staging this photo. Still, despite the propaganda, the boycott had to be called off for lack of cooperation. Source: Bundesarchiv

Ordinary Germans and the Ostracism of Jews, 1935



The Nuremberg Race Laws, Sept. 1935 defined who was Jewish, deprived Jews of German citizenship, prohibited intermarriage and set in motion a barrage of laws that ostracized Jews from society.

Ostracism and Social Death (Kaplan) 1935



In a public school in Germany. Source Yad Vashem. Jewish students singled out while the blackboard reads: „The Jew is out greatest enemy.“

Beneficiaries: Aryanization

Aryanization of a
Jewish-owned
Business, 1938 on
the basis of Göring's
"Decree on the
Exclusion of Jews
from German
Economic Life"

The sign reads
"Previously Weil
Rubber Goods, now
Stamm and
Bassermann."

Source: Preussischer
Kulturbesitz.



Kristallnacht: Beneficiaries



Looters of a Jewish shop after Kristallnacht. Dessau, November 9, 1938. Source USHMM.

Perpetrators: War and Deportations of Jews. Ghettos and *Einsatzgruppen*

- Creation of Ghettos in Poland, Autumn 1940. Calculated murder through malnutrition and diseases due to overcrowding
- Einsatzgruppen*: Mobile SS units, who murder the Jews and the Intelligentsia in occupied countries in Eastern Europe, particularly the Soviet Union



Left: Entrance to a Ghetto: Caption on Sign: Living quarters of Jews. Access denied. Right: A member of the SS Einsatzgruppe D murders Jews in Vinnitsa, Ukraine, 1942



Wannsee Conference

Land	Zahl
A. Altreich	131.800
Ostmark	43.700
Ostgebiete	420.000
Generalgouvernement	2.284.000
Bialystok	400.000
Protektorat Böhmen und Mähren	74.200
Estland	
Letland	3.500
Litauen	34.000
Belgien	43.000
Dänemark	5.600
Frankreich / Besetztes Gebiet	165.000
Unbesetztes Gebiet	700.000
Griechenland	69.600
Niederlande	160.800
Norwegen	1.300
B. Bulgarien	48.000
England	330.000
Finnland	2.300
Irland	4.000
Italien einschl. Sardinien	58.000
Albanien	200
Kroatien	40.000
Portugal	3.000
Rumänien einschl. Bessarabien	342.000
Schweden	8.000
Schweiz	18.000
Serbien	10.000
Slowakei	88.000
Spanien	6.000
Türkei (europ. Teil)	55.500
Ungarn	742.800
UdSSR	5.000.000
Ukraine	2.994.684
Weißrußland aus- schl. Bialystok	446.484
Zusammen: über	11.000.000



Jan 1942.

- The conference marks the transition from mass killing to the industrialized mass murder in the camps. While Einsatzgruppen and Ghettos had already killed more than a million people, now the organized murder in camps was organized.
- To this end, Heydrich had to convene a host of German bureaucrats.

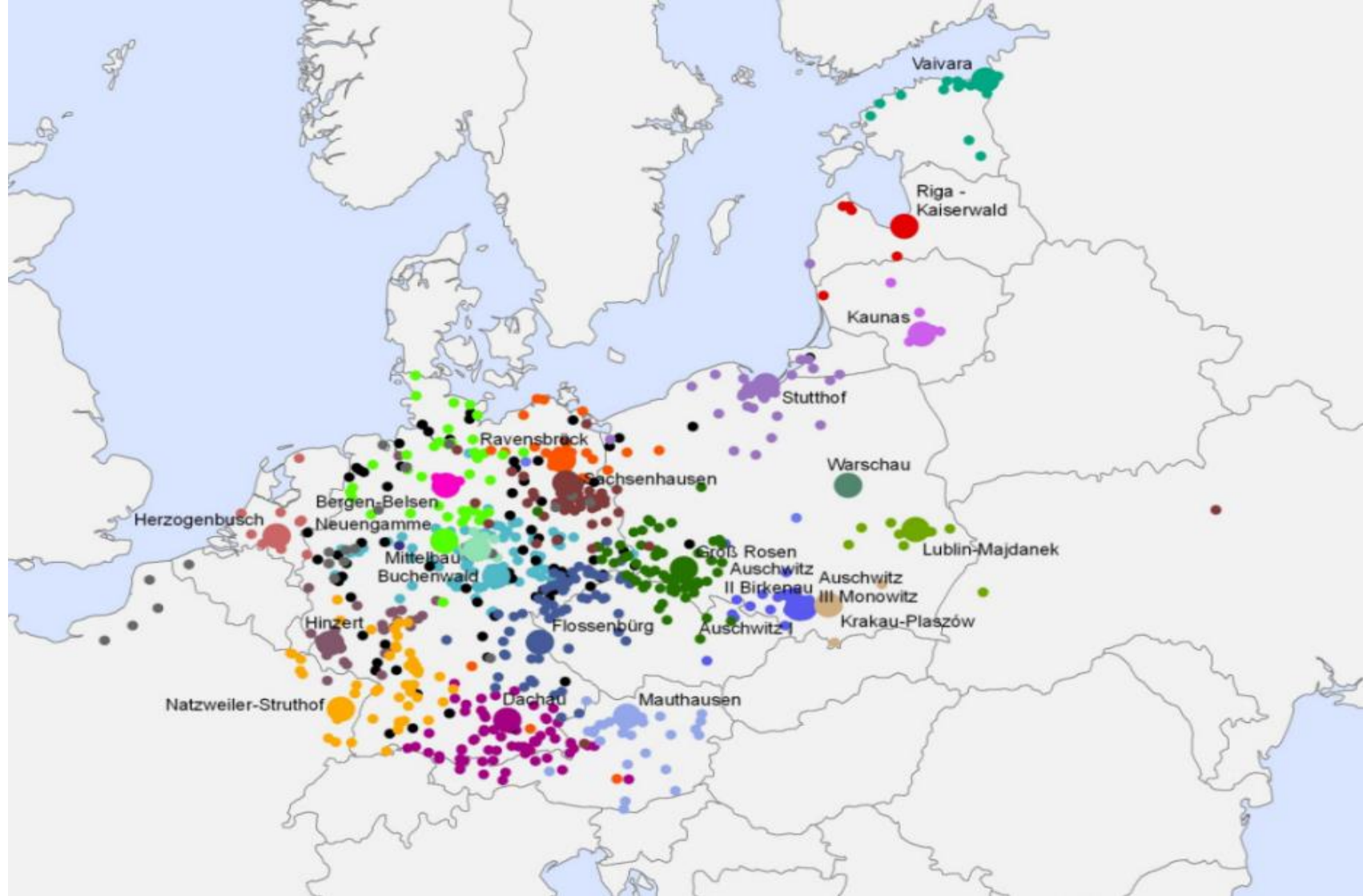
Perpetrators: The *Wehrmacht* and the Holocaust

While some few officers (like Col. Groscurth) resisted and protested against war crimes, most Wehrmacht units seemed to have willingly assisted the SS and sometimes even Wehrmacht units took it upon themselves to murder Jews or civilians.



Bundesarchiv, Bild 1011-287-0872-28A
Foto: Koll | 1941/1942

German soldiers looking at a hanging of Soviet partisans, 1941. Source: Bundesarchiv.



Map of SS-designated concentration camps and subcamps, 1933–1945. Each large dot represents the main camp with the smaller dots referencing subcamps. The original map is animated to show the expansion of the camp system over time (Data source: The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Encyclopedia of Camps and Ghettos, Vol. 1 [2009]). —Alexander Yule and Anne Kelly Knowles

(2) Resisters and Rescuers

Key Terms:

Resistance (Poland: Nationalist, Communist, and Jewish resistance)

Rescuers: Righteous Gentiles (Irena Sendler)

Jewish Rescuers (Loewy Family)

Polish Resistance

Jewish Resistance.

Warsaw Ghetto
Uprising 1943.



Female Jewish Fighters in the
Warsaw Ghetto Uprising 1943.
Source: Bundesarchiv

Nationalist Home Army
under the command of
**Exile Government in
London.** Largest and
most effective resistance
group (300.000).
Organized the **Warsaw
Uprising** in 1944.



People's Army. Under the control of
the **Communist Party.** 30.000
troops.

Polish soldiers also fought together
with Soviet forces, most notably in
the Battle of Lenino (1943)



Postwar Polish Propaganda poster
claiming that the People's army
was the only effective resistance.
Source: wikimedia

Rescuers: Righteous Among Nations

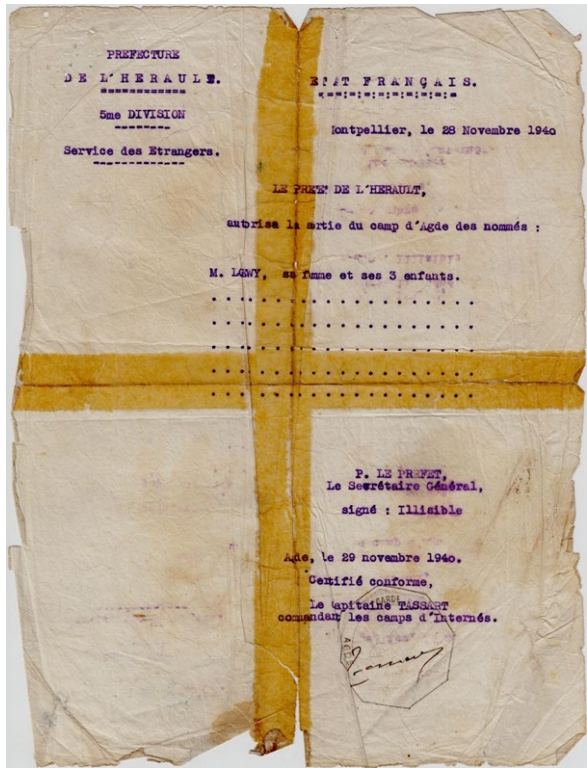
Rescuers from many different nations, however, more Polish recipients than from any other nation. Example: Irena Sendler, a Polish Catholic nurse who smuggled Jewish children out of the Warsaw Ghetto and sheltered them in orphanages or with families. Even under torture, she did not give away the names and locations of those she hid.



Irena Sendler, 1944. Source: Yad Vashem

Jewish Rescuers

The Loewy Family rescued 1,500 Jews and non-Jews from a camp in Southern France, actively fought in the French resistance and helped found a synagogue in downtown Phoenix.



French Resistance Group with Max and Fred Loewy: Arizona Jewish Historical Society Box 02-15 Loewy 2007.026.005 Folder 029

Arizona Republic, 1955

Document granting the Lowey's their freedom from Camp d'Agde in December 1940.
Source: Arizona Jewish Historical Society. Loewy Collection. Box 02-15 Folder 2007.026.005.057



(3) Aftermath

Key Terms:

Nuremberg Trials

Displaced Persons

Nuremberg Trials



Source: National Archives.



German caricature on the effect of De-Nazification, 1946. Source: Haus der Geschichte der Bundesrepublik Deutschland

Nuremberg Trials - political leaders (Goering, Ribbentrop), military leaders (Generals Keitel and Jodl), doctors, judges, etc. Problem: Some Germans perceived it as justice delivered by the victors, especially since Soviet war crimes were left out. Furthermore, the trials could not deal with the overall infestation of the Germany society with Nazism.

Displaced Persons

- 1945: 11 million people were displaced from their home country (PoWs, released slave laborers, survivors of the Holocaust)
- Principle of Repatriation of DPs to their countries of origin.
- Jews feared living among perpetrators, bystanders and beneficiaries and renewed persecution in Eastern Europe. Many Eastern Europeans feared communist persecution.
- Though late to respond, the US admitted the largest number of Displaced Persons. Many Jewish DPs also emigrated to Palestine and Israel after 1948.



Jewish Survivors in DP Camp
Feldafing near Munich.
Source: USHMM

(4) Resources

For Educators:

Teacher Fellowship Program (deadline Feb.): <https://www.ushmm.org/teach/opportunities-for-educators/museum-teacher-fellowship-program>

Survivor Testimonies: <https://www.ushmm.org/remember/holocaust-reflections-testimonies>

Teacher Resources (Lesson Plans, Virtual Field Trips): <https://www.ushmm.org/teach/teaching-materials>

Echoes and Reflections: <https://echoesandreflections.org/>

Primary Source Collections:

USHMM Collection: <https://www.ushmm.org/collections/the-museums-collections/browse>

German History in Documents and Images: <http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/>

Yad Vashem Documents Archive: <https://documents.yadvashem.org/>

On Jewish resisters: <https://www.yadvashem.org/holocaust/about/combat-resistance/jewish-armed-resistance.html>

On Righteous Among Nations: <https://www.yadvashem.org/righteous.html>

Nuremberg Trials Project. Harvard University <https://nuremberg.law.harvard.edu/>

On Displaced Persons: <https://www.ushmm.org/collections/bibliography/displaced-persons>
and David Boder Archive: <https://iit.aviaryplatform.com/collections/231>

ASU Lib Guide on Primary Sources on the Holocaust:
<https://libguides.asu.edu/holocaust/PrimarySources>

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Resistance: Anti-Defamation League:

<https://www.adl.org/sites/default/files/documents/assets/pdf/education-outreach/Resistance-During-the-Holocaust-NYLM-Guide.pdf>

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