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

Jan 1942.
- The conference marks the transition from mass killing to the industrialized mass murder in the camps. While Einsatzgruppen and Ghettoes 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.

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.

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

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

Arizona Republic, 1955

Arizona Republic, Phoenix, Arizona.

Synagogue. This sketch by Max Kaufman, architect, is of the synagogue now under construction at 333 E. Portland to house Congregation Beth Hebrew. Although modernistic in design, it preserves the traditional symbols of a meeting place of its character. It is to be completed in early fall.
(3) Aftermath

Key Terms:
Nuremberg Trials
Displaced Persons
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 county (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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Righteous Among Nations: M. Paldiel, The Path of the Righteous. Gentile Rescuers of Jews During the Holocaust (Yad Vashem 1993)