

■ 18A Descent into Hell: a detailed chronology of anti-semitic measures

- 1933 Mar** Post-election SA anti-Jewish violence
- 1 Apr** To try to prevent unruly anti-semitic attacks by radicals, an official boycott of Jewish shops and businesses is declared. It meets with a limited response, and is called off after one day
- Apr** Law for the Restoration of the Civil Service bans Jews from employment in the Civil Service (Hindenburg gains some exceptions)
- Jul** Law for Compulsory Sterilisation (of the mentally ill)
- Sept** Entailed Farm Law: bans Jews from owning farms
- 1934** Relatively calm year
SD propose emigration of Jews
- 1935** Resumption of unofficial attacks on Jews again leads the government to take formal action
- Sept** At Nuremberg Rally, Hitler announces:
- **Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honour** (forbids mixed marriages, sex between Aryans and Jews)
 - **Reich Citizenship Law** (deprives Jews of German citizenship)
 - **Law for the Protection of the Genetic Health of the German People** (medical examination before marriage; 'certificates of fitness to marry'; a series of centres to be set up by the League for the Propagation of Racial Knowledge where people can have their cranial measurements taken to reassure themselves they are fully Aryan)
- 1936** Quiet year to help the economy and foreign relations
- Aug** Anti-Jewish signs in Berlin removed during Olympic Games
Himmler put in charge of Jewish emigration
- 1937** Little action until general radicalisation of the regime in the autumn
- Sept** Nuremberg rallies: Hitler makes fierce speech attacking Jews
- Nov** Schacht, critical of anti-Jewish economic measures, resigns
- 1938 Mar** *Anschluss* (union with Austria) gives Germany 150,000 more Jews. Adolf Eichmann forces 45,000 of the Austrian Jews to emigrate
- April** Decree on the Registering of Jewish Property (all property valued at over 5,000 RM)
- Jun-Oct** Series of anti-Jewish decrees:
- Jewish doctors, dentists, lawyers forbidden to have Aryan patients or clients
 - Jews excluded from some commercial activities
 - Jews must add Sarah or Israel to their names. Identity cards to be stamped with a J
- 9-10 Nov** *Kristallnacht* (Night of Broken Glass): a series of anti-Jewish attacks, unofficially encouraged by officials and police. Thousands of Jewish businesses attacked, synagogues burnt, 91 Jews murdered, 20,000 sent to camps. Jews forced to pay 1 billion RM for the damage
- Nov** Decree excludes Jews from German economic life:
- Awarding of public business contracts to Jews banned
 - Jews banned from trades, shops, businesses
 - Jews excluded from schools, universities, cinemas, sports facilities
- 1939 Jan** Reich Central Office for Jewish Emigration set up to promote emigration
Hitler refers to annihilation of Jewish race in Reichstag speech
Hitler tells Czech Foreign Minister that he is going to destroy the Jews
Major emigration wave
- Sept** War against Poland. *Einsatzgruppen* murder thousands of civilians
German Jews placed under curfew; radios confiscated
- Oct** Himmler made Reich Commissioner for Strengthening Germanism
Polish Jews resettled, moved into ghettos
Euthanasia programme begins

The *Einsatzgruppen* were special task forces of the Security Police that operated behind German lines in occupied territory. Their main task was to shoot 'hostile elements', especially Communists and Jews. Between 1939 and 1943 they shot over 2 million innocent civilians, including an estimated one and a half million Jews.

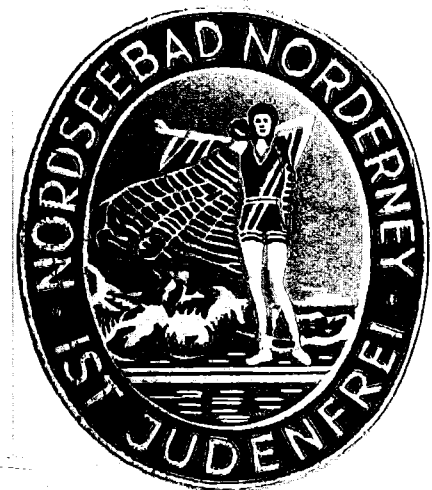
SOURCE 18.15 Shop boycott. The placard accuses the Jewish owners of damaging German crafts and paying their workers hunger wages



SOURCE 18.16 At the August 1935 rally, in the Berlin Palace of Sport, 16,000 people bought tickets to hear Julius Streicher speak. The anti-semitic slogan reads: 'Women and girls, the Jews are your ruin'



SOURCE 18.17 An advertisement for a 'Jew-free resort': this sign indicated that there were no longer any Jews at the Frisian bathing resort of Nordseebad Norderney



SOURCE 18.18 The entrance to the Warsaw ghetto. The notice reads: 'Jewish area: entrance forbidden'



1940 July

Plan drawn up to transport 4 million western Jews to Madagascar

1940-Aug 1941

70,000 mentally ill people gassed

1941 June

War against the USSR. Political killings ordered. Half a million Jews shot

July (or possibly Oct)

Decision taken to embark on 'Final Solution'

Sept
Oct

German Jews ordered to wear Star of David
Emigration banned. Mass deportation of German Jews to the east begins

Dec

Soviet resistance blocks plans to move Jews to beyond the Urals

1942 Jan

Mass gassing of Jews at Chelmno camp begins

Dec

Wannsee Conference plans Final Solution

Beginning of systematic round-up of all Jews under German control

German gypsies moved to Auschwitz

SOURCE 18.19

Women and girls from Dvinsk about to be shot by a German special force



SOURCE 18.20 Page 1 of a report by an SS official in occupied Lithuania listing the Jews who have been killed by Einsatzgruppen

Lithuania, 11 November 1941

Geheime Reichssache!

Gesamtaufstellung der im Bereich des EK.2 bis zum 1.10.1941 durchgeführten Exekutionen.

bernahme der sicherheitspolizeilichen Aufgaben in Litauen durch das Einsatzkommando 3 am 2. Juli 1941. (Das Gebiet Vilna wurde am 9. Aug. 41, das Gebiet Schaulen am 7. Okt. 41 vom EK.3 übernommen, Wilna wurde bis zu diesem Zeitpunkt vom EK.9 und Schaulen vom EK.2 bearbeitet.)

Auf meine Anordnung und meinen Befehl durch die lit. Partisanen durchgeführten Exekutionen:

4.7.41 Kaunas - Fort VII - 416 Juden, 47 Jüdinnen	463
6.7.41 Kaunas - Fort VII - Juden	2 514

Nach Aufstellung eines Mollkommandos unter Führung von SS-Ostuf. Henmann und B - 10 bewährten Männern des EK.3 wurden nachfolgende Aktionen in Zusammenarbeit mit den lit. Partisanen durchgeführt:

1.7.41 Mariampole Juden	32
8.7.41 " 14 " und 5 komm. Funktionäre	19
4.7.41 Cirkalinai komm. Funktionäre	6
9.7.41 Ventspilogala 32 Juden, 2 Jüdinnen, 1 Litauerin, 2 lit. Komm., 1 russ. Kommunist	38
5.7.41 Kaunas - Fort VII - 21 Juden, 3 Jüdinnen	24
14.7.41 Mariampole 21 " , 1 russ. 9 lit. Komm.	31
17.7.41 Babtel 8 komm. Funktionäre (6 davon Juden)	8
10.7.41 Mariampole 39 Juden, 14 Jüdinnen	53
19.7.41 Kaunas - Fort VII - 17 " , 2 " , 4 lit. Komm., 2 komm. Litauerinnen, 1 deutsch. K.	26
21.7.41 Panevysys 59 Juden, 11 Jüdinnen, 1 Litauerin, 1 pol., 22 lit. Komm., 9 russ. Komm.	103
22.7.41 " 1 Jude	1
25.7.41 Kedainiai 83 Juden, 12 Jüdinnen, 14 russ. Komm., 1 lit. Komm., 1 russ. Offizier	125
5.7.41 Mariampole 40 Juden, 13 Jüdinnen	103
28.7.41 Panevysys 234 " , 15 " , 19 russ. Komm., 20 lit. Kommunisten	269

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SOURCE 18.21 The crematorium used to burn the bodies after victims had been killed in the gas chambers



THE TOLL OF DEATH

Estimated deaths in camps

- 6 million Jews
- 3 million Poles
- 3 million Soviet prisoners of war
- Up to 1 million gypsies
- Thousands of homosexuals

1943

Expansion of extermination camp system

1944 Nov

Himmler orders end of gassing of inmates and the destruction of Auschwitz. Remaining inmates evacuated west, away from the advancing Soviet troops

1945 Jan

Red Army reaches Auschwitz

Apr

American and British troops reach concentration camps