

# The Holocaust

**What is it?**

**Why study it?**

**What is the legacy of the Holocaust?**

# Holocaust Defined

- The word, Holocaust, derives from Greek words, meaning complete destruction, usually by fire.

# Hitler's view on the Holocaust

- **Nature is cruel; therefore we are also entitled to be cruel.** When I send the flower of German youth into the steel hail of the next war without feeling the slightest regret over the precious German blood that is being spilled, **should I not also have the right to eliminate millions of an inferior race that multiplies like vermin?**
- **Adolf Hitler**, quoted in "Hitler," by Joachim Fest, Vintage Books Edition, 1974, p. 679-680:
- <http://fcit.usf.edu/holocaust/resource/document/DocJewQn.htm>

# Nazi View

- "The fifth commandment, 'Thou shall not kill,' is not God's commandment at all: It is a Jewish invention."
- Statement of the high Nazi official Stahle after the protest, on December 4, 1940, by the evangelical priest Sautter against the criminal acts of euthanasia

(<http://www.sobibor.info>)

# How did it come to this?

Photo from  
a Hungarian  
Newspaper



[http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://isurvived.org/Pictures\\_iSurvived-2/Holocaust-badges.gif&imgrefurl=http](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://isurvived.org/Pictures_iSurvived-2/Holocaust-badges.gif&imgrefurl=http)

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Photo from  
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Notice  
the  
tattoo  
on the  
infants  
arm.



[http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://isurvived.org/Pictures\\_iSurvived-2/Holocaust-badges.gif&imgrefurl=http](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://isurvived.org/Pictures_iSurvived-2/Holocaust-badges.gif&imgrefurl=http)

Photo from  
a Hungarian  
Newspaper

## Execution of Jews in the streets.



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# Anti-Semitism

- The United States Department of State defines anti-Semitism in its 2005 Report on Global Anti-Semitism as "hatred toward Jews — individually and as a group — that can be attributed to the Jewish religion and/or ethnicity."

["Report on Global Anti-Semitism"](#), [U.S. State Department](#), January 5, 2005.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anti-semitism>

Das Giftgillz

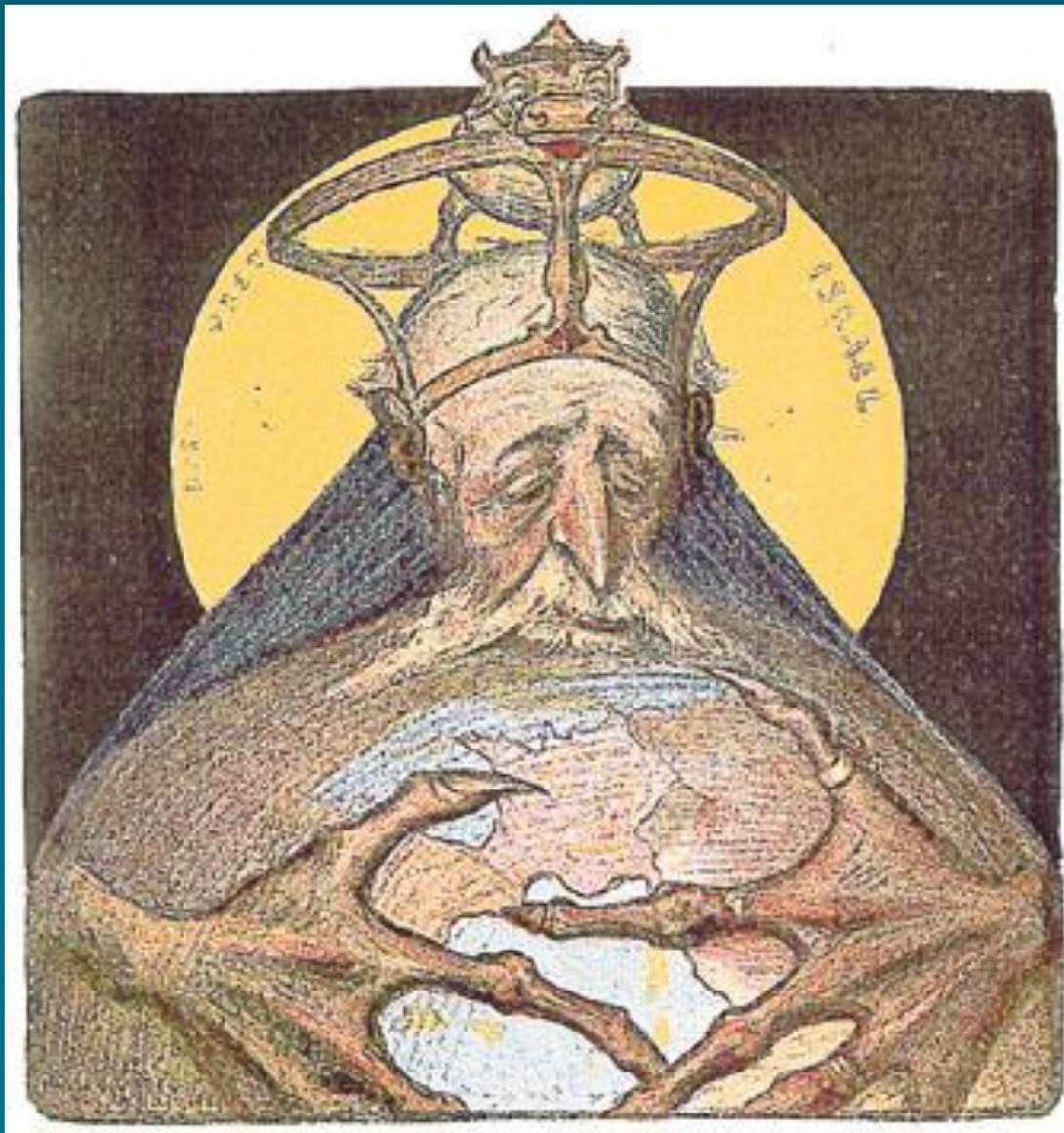


Erzählungen von Ernst Brunn  
Lieder von Fido

W  
6575

# Symbols of Anti- Semitism

[www.mchekc.org](http://www.mchekc.org) and <http://www.ushmm.org/>



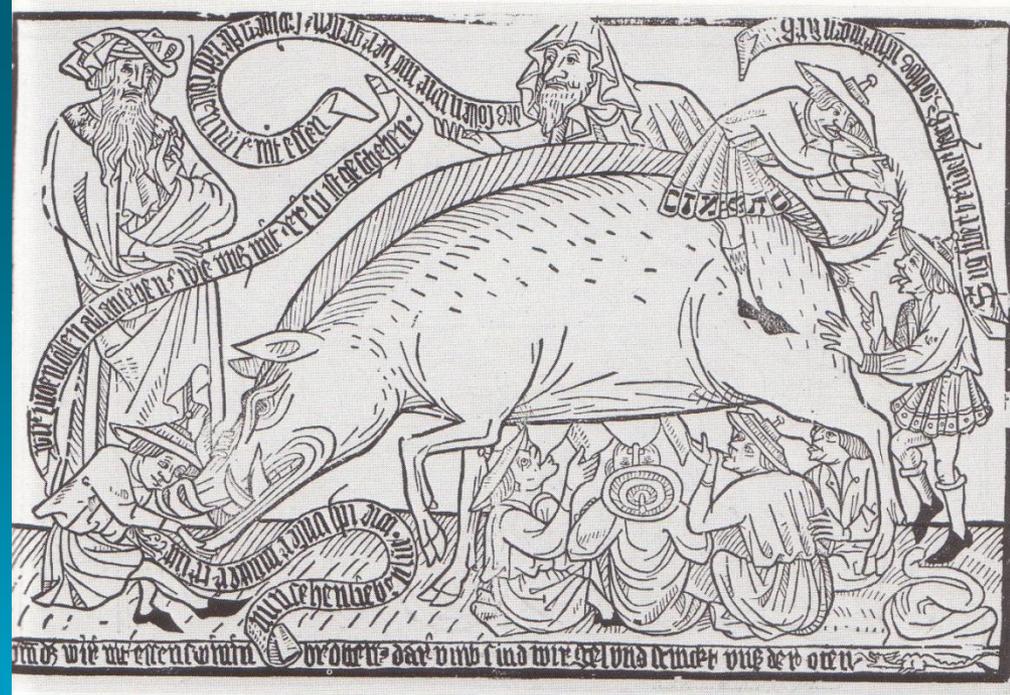
- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Antisemiticroths.jpg> (en:User:Goodoldpolonius2)

# Before Anti-Semitism

## Anti-Judaism

- Anti-Judaism is a theological position taken by the some Christians in which Judaism is demeaned and rejected because of its failure to embrace Jesus as the Messiah.
- Religious persecution
- 4<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries

# Symbols of Anti-Judaism



<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,1537282,00.html>

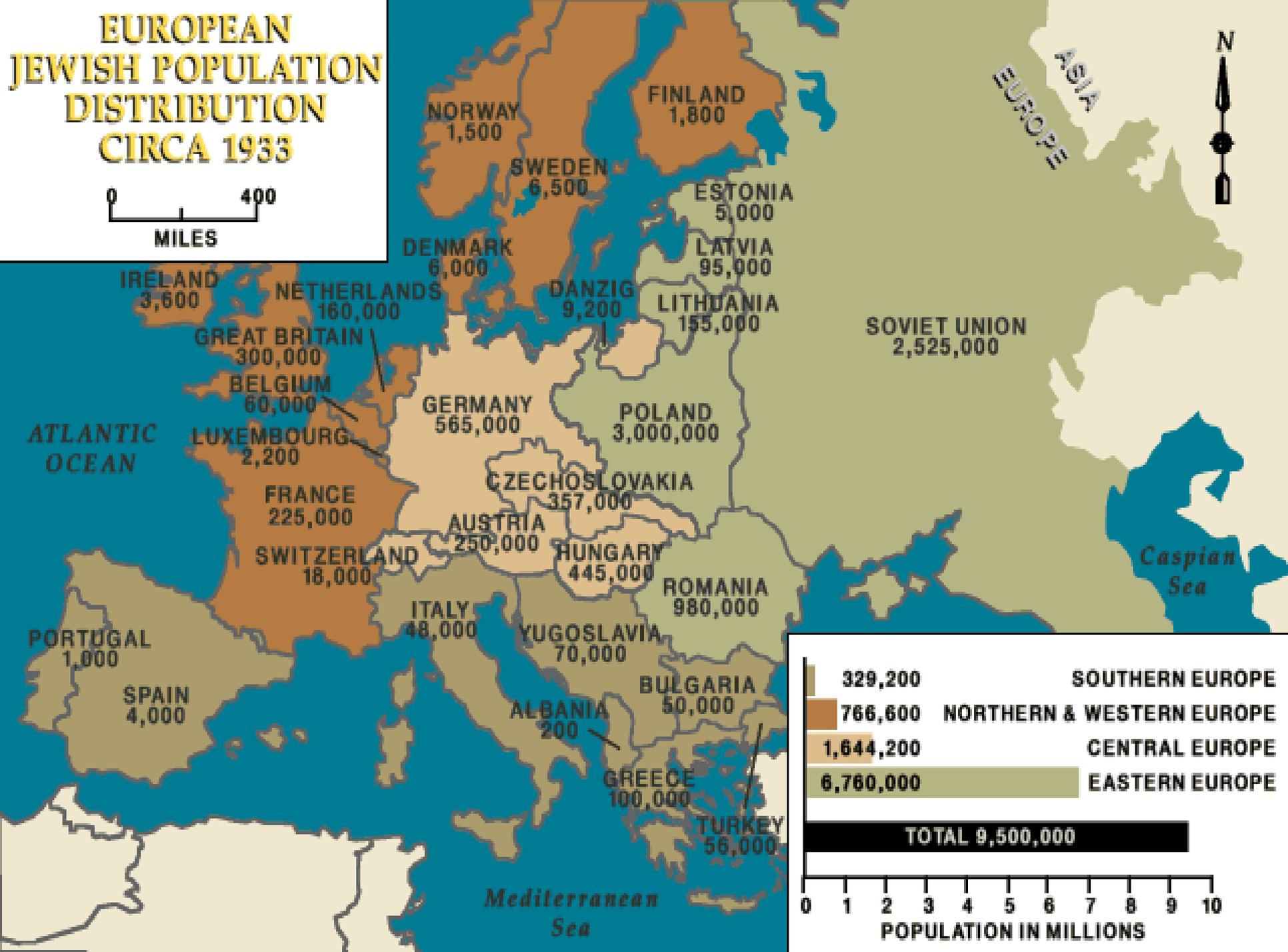
[http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d5/Judensau\\_Blockbuch.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d5/Judensau_Blockbuch.jpg)

# Stop and Think

- Compare the following Jewish Population Distribution Maps of 1933 and 1950.
- Write down your reaction to such a change in only 17 years.
- Record your answer in your notebook.

# EUROPEAN JEWISH POPULATION DISTRIBUTION CIRCA 1933

0 400  
MILES



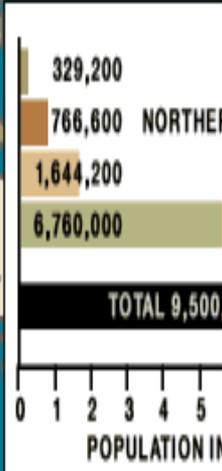
# EUROPEAN JEWISH POPULATION DISTRIBUTION CIRCA 1950



# EUROPEAN JEWISH POPULATION DISTRIBUTION CIRCA 1933



# EUROPEAN JEWISH POPULATION DISTRIBUTION CIRCA 1950



# Propaganda

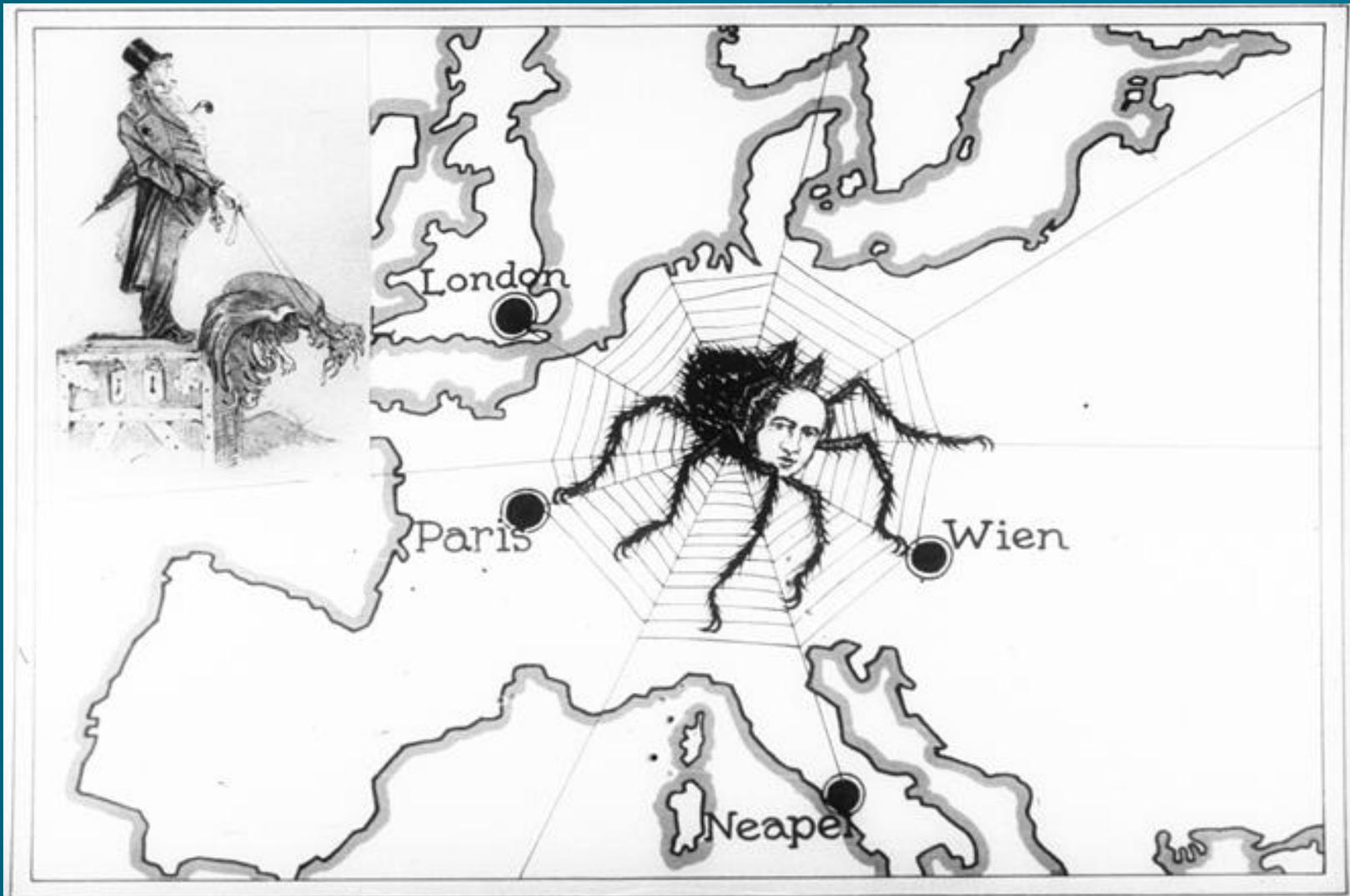
- Propaganda is a specific type of message presentation aimed at serving an agenda. At its root, the denotation of propaganda is 'to propagate (actively spread) a philosophy or point of view'.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Propaganda>

- Hitler blamed the Jews for all of Germany's post WWI problems.
- Portrayed the Jews as inhuman, vermin.
- Convinced most of the German population to HATE the Jews.
- Hitler's case is helped when the laws restricting the Jewish participation in the economy made things better for Germans.

# Propaganda Examples

[http://www.ushmm.org/uia-cgi/uia\\_doc/query/1?uf=uia\\_aAxkTo](http://www.ushmm.org/uia-cgi/uia_doc/query/1?uf=uia_aAxkTo)





# What to do with the Jewish Population?

What is the Nazi response?

# First Solution-Expulsion

- Expulsion of German Jews from many hundreds of villages and small towns in which they lived and worked.
- The goal was to make hundreds of municipalities 'Jew-free' (Judenrein).
- The Jewish families thus driven out went to larger towns and cities inside Germany, or emigrated elsewhere.

# Stop and Think

- If this was your family, based upon what you already know about the Holocaust what would you do? What are your options?
- Write your response in your notebook.

# Second Solution-Emigration

- From 1933 until 1939, this was the official policy of the German government.
- They permitted, and even encouraged, emigration.
- More than half of of Germany's Jewish population had emigrated by 1938.

# Emigration Key Points

- Required German willingness to let the Jews leave.
- Also, need a country willing to take you.
- Summer of 1938, many states adopted laws restricting Jewish immigration.

# The Jews wondered

which countries would remain safe???

- Tens of thousands of Jews who found refuge in France, Belgium, and the Netherlands, could not know that the countries which took them in would, in due course, be overrun by Germany.

# How Long Did Emigration Last?

- As Late as June of 1939, in the eyes of the German government, the 'solution' to the increasing number of Jews within the Reich remained emigration.
- Numbers increased as Germany gained more territory.

# Cost of Emigration

- The loss of talent in many professions, including scientists, doctors, writers, and musicians.

# Concentration Camps

- The camp system was set up to punish political opponents of the regime.
- From 1933 to 1938 fewer than a hundred Jews were among several thousand German citizens murdered in concentration camps.



## NAZI CONCENTRATION CAMPS 1939



1939 INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARIES



Solid squares represent select camps. Because of map scale, not all camps can be shown or labeled.

### GREATER GERMANY MAJOR NAZI CAMPS 1944





# Third Solution-Ghetto's

- Starting with the Jews of Poland during the winter of 1939-1940, the Jews would be forced to live hitherto, and made to live in restricted areas.
- This was a place of confinement and poverty.

# Life in the Ghetto's

- Still lived as family units
- Jews keep up a community-school's, soup kitchen's, etc.
- Black market developed
- Food smuggling necessary to make up for the inadequate amount provided.
  - By adults returning from work detail
  - By children sent out to scavenge
  - Penalty for both if caught was death on the spot.

# GHETTOS IN OCCUPIED EUROPE 1939-1944

1944 INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARIES



ATLANTIC OCEAN



SPAIN (Neutral)

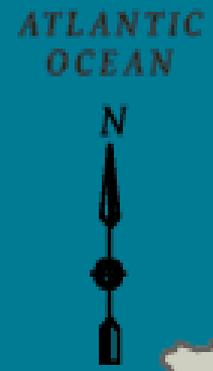
-  Ghettos Established 1939-May 1941
-  Ghettos Established June 1941-1943
-  Ghettos Established 1944
-  German-Occupied
-  German Ally
-  Liberated/Allies



# Fourth 'Solution'-Einsatzgruppen

- In June 1941 the German Army invaded the Soviet Union. Following the troops were special killing squads or *Einsatzgruppen*, whose orders were to murder Jews in every locality.
- Within six months as many as a million Jews had been murdered.
- The aim of the killing squads was to eliminate Jewish life altogether.

# EINSATZGRUPPEN MASSACRES (MOBILE KILLING UNITS) IN EASTERN EUROPE JUNE 1941–NOVEMBER 1942



- Einsatzgruppen Area of Operation
- Greater Germany & Occupied Territories
- German Allies or Dependent States
- Neutral
- Allies

1941 INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARIES

# Results of the Killing Squads

- In Kiev, a total of 33,000 killed in three days.
- Tens of thousands of Jews were shot down in ditches, gravel pits, and fields in the vast area through which the Germans advanced in the summer and autumn of 1941.

# Stop and Think

- At this point what options would your family have if they were Jewish and still living in Europe?
- Write your response in your notebook.

# Final Solution-Death Camps

- In 1941, Reinhard Heydrich was entrusted with the task of preparing the mechanics of the final solution.
- He is replaced by Adolf Eichmann after his assassination.
- Solution based upon the T-4 Euthanasia program from 1938-1941.

# The 'Solution'

- Jews living throughout Europe were to be rounded up (wherever possible use local police).
- Jews should be detained locally in special holding camps. (Transportation Camps)
- Then deported by train to distant camps in which they would be murdered by gas.
- No killing should take place in or near the cities in which the victims lived.

# The 'Solution' Continued

- Central to this plan were the elements of secrecy and deception.
- 'Deportation' was to be called 'resettlement'.
- This 'resettlement' area was to be called 'somewhere in the East'.
- The trains were to be called 'Special Resettlement Trains'.
- The nature of the camps was to be kept secret.

# MAJOR DEPORTATIONS TO EXTERMINATION CAMPS 1942-1944



- ← Deportation Route
- Camp
- ▣ Extermination Camp
- City
- ★ Ghetto
- German-Occupied
- German Ally
- Liberated/Allies

1944 INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARIES

Front Line January 1944

OCCUPIED EASTERN TERRITORY

SOVIET UNION

ATLANTIC OCEAN



SPAIN (Neutral)

Front Line January 1944

Mediterranean Sea

Black Sea

TURKEY (Neutral)

GREAT BRITAIN

NETHERLANDS

Mechelen

BELGIUM

Drancy

FRANCE

SWITZERLAND (Neutral)

Theresienstadt

Bolzano

Fossoli di Carpi

ITALY

Corsica

Sardinia

Rome

Front Line January 1944

DENMARK

North Sea

SWEDEN (Neutral)

Baltic Sea

Berlin

GREATER GERMANY

Chelmno

Lodz

Treblinka

Warsaw

Majdanek

Sobibor

Belzec

Auschwitz

SLOVANIA

Vienna

HUNGARY

CROATIA

SERBIA

ROMANIA

BULGARIA

ALBANIA

GREECE

Salonika

# EXTERMINATION CAMPS IN OCCUPIED POLAND 1942



- Extermination Camps
- Poland 1939 Boundary
- Pre German-Soviet Pact

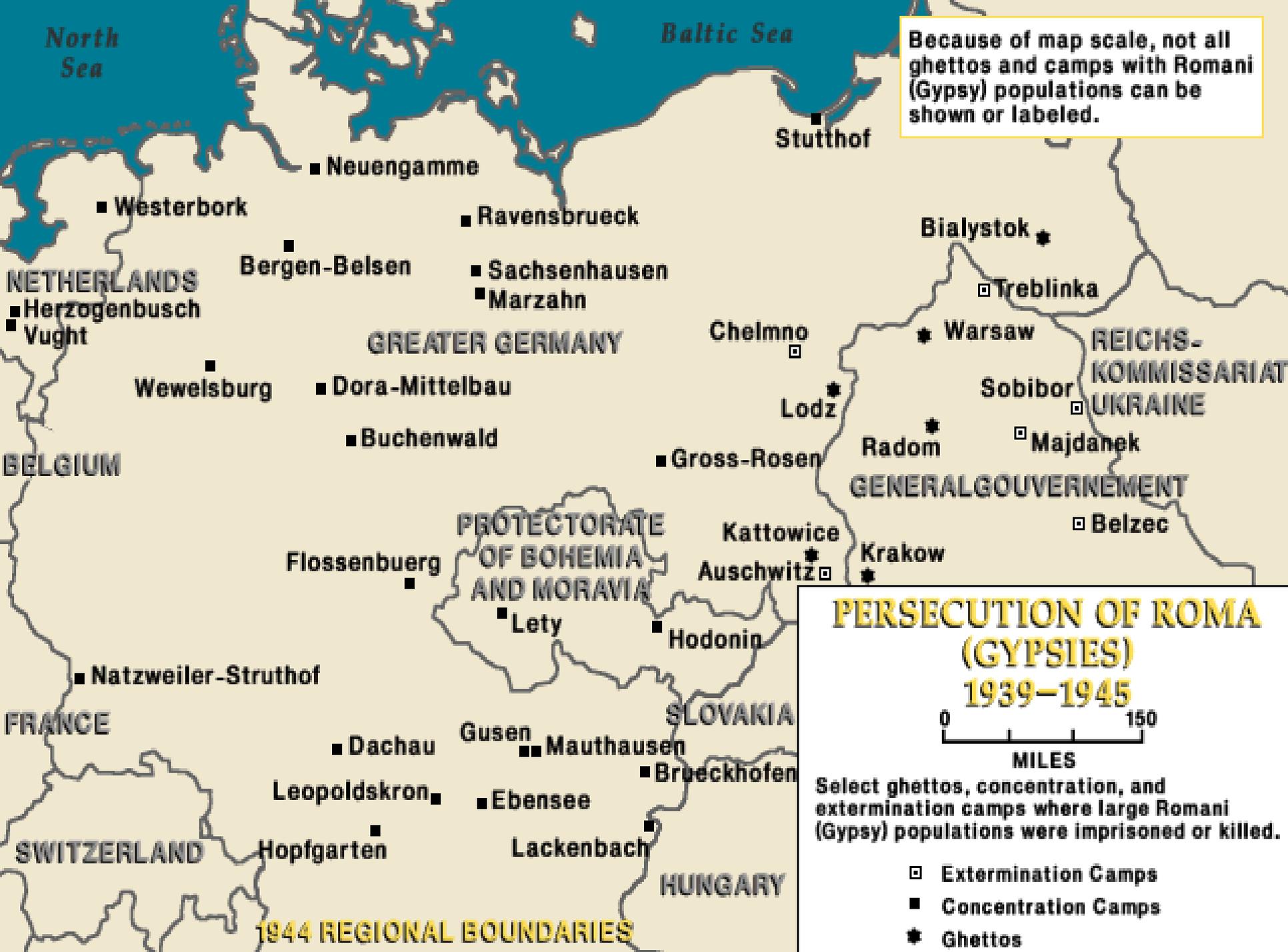


# Methods of mass murder

- The first was by means of gas vans in which the deportees would be killed by exhaust fumes during the short drive from the station to the camp itself.
- The second was by means of specially-designed gas chambers, into which they would be taken as if for a shower, and inside which, once the doors were locked, they would be killed by gas.

# This speaks for itself.

- We have - I would say, as very consistent National Socialists, taken the question of blood as our starting point. We were the first really to solve the problem of blood by action, and in this connection, by problem of blood, we of course do not mean anti-Semitism. **Anti-Semitism is exactly the same as delousing. Getting rid of lice is not a question of ideology. It is a matter of cleanliness.**
- Speech by Reich fuehrer-SS **Himmler** at Kharkow, April 1943. Nazi Conspiracy and Aggression - Washington, U.S Govt. Print. Off., 1946, Vol. IV, p. 572-574:
- <http://fcit.usf.edu/holocaust/resource/document/DocJewQn.htm>



Because of map scale, not all ghettos and camps with Romani (Gypsy) populations can be shown or labeled.

## PERSECUTION OF ROMA (GYPSIES) 1939-1945



Select ghettos, concentration, and extermination camps where large Romani (Gypsy) populations were imprisoned or killed.

- Extermination Camps
- Concentration Camps
- ★ Ghettos

1944 REGIONAL BOUNDARIES



# Liberation

- Not all camps were liberated at the same time or by the same armies.
- The Russians came in and said your liberated go home.
- Other allied forces set up camps to care for the prisoners.

# MAJOR CAMPS FOR JEWISH DISPLACED PERSONS 1945-1946

0 150

MILES

OCCUPATION ZONES 1945-1949

- British
- French
- International
- Soviet
- United States



# What to do now?

- The liberation had come too late, not only for the dead but for us living as well. We had lost our families, our friends, our homes. We had no place to go and nobody was waiting for us anywhere. We were alive, yes. We were liberated from death, from the fear of death, but the fear of life started. Hadassah Rosensaft, April 15, 1945.
- *After the Darkness: Reflection on the Holocaust*, Elie Wiesel.

# JEWISH IMMIGRATION TO THE STATE OF ISRAEL 1948-1950



Approximate number of Jewish Immigrants to Israel each year	
1948	120,000
1949	240,000
1950	170,000



# Stop and Think

- You survived the death camps.
- You are weak from malnutrition and the forced labor. You are hundreds of miles from home with no money or transportation. You have no idea who else in your family may have survived.
- What do you do now? Where do you go?
- Write your response in your notebook.

# Displaced Person's Camps

- Allies unprepared to deal with the amount of people.
- Often used parts of existing German camps to house these people
- Camps are mixed races and religions
  - This results in continued Jewish persecution.
- Finally all Jewish camps are established.

# Displaced Person's Camps II

- Couldn't live as family units because most families were no longer complete.
- Jewish camps had the highest marriage and birth rates.
- Began to rebuild families and sense of community that had helped them to survive.

Source: Holocaust History and resource for Educators class summer of 2006

# Aftermath

- Zionist movement gains strength
  - Call for a Jewish State (Israel)
- The Jews have no where to go.
  - Many who return home are met with hatred and often killed or threatened.
- Many desire to go to Palestine.

# Stop and Think

- You are a Jew in a Displaced Person's camp.
- You have no money, transportation, or visa. Few countries want you. Britain is limiting emigration into Palestine to 1,200 people per month.
- How do you get out of this camp? What needs to be in place for you to get out.

# Questions

- After viewing and discussing this you must have questions? Like, “How did it come to this?”
- Reflect upon what you have seen and discussed.
- Write possible answers to this question and other questions that you have.

# Want to know more?

- *Inside the concentration camps: Eyewitness Accounts of Life in Hitler's Death Camps*, Compiled by Eugene Aroneanu.
- *The Doll with the Yellow Star*, by Yona Zeldis McDonough.
- *After the Darkness: Reflection on the Holocaust*, Elie Wiesel.
- There are countless resources available check into them!

# R e f e r e n c e s

[www.bl.uk/services/learning/curriculum/voices/refglos.html](http://www.bl.uk/services/learning/curriculum/voices/refglos.html)

<http://fcit.usf.edu/holocaust/resource/document/DocJewQn.htm>

<http://www.sobibor.info>

[http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://isurvived.org/Pictures\\_iSurvived-2/Holocaust-badges.gif&imgrefurl=http](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://isurvived.org/Pictures_iSurvived-2/Holocaust-badges.gif&imgrefurl=http)

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Propaganda>

[www.isurvived.org](http://www.isurvived.org)

<http://www.ushmm.org/> All maps came from this site.

<http://www.mchekc.org/>

Holocaust History and resource for Educators class summer of 2006

<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,1537282,00.html>

[http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d5/Judensau\\_Blockbuch.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d5/Judensau_Blockbuch.jpg)