



“The Protocols”

WITH
PREFACE AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

TEACHER'S GUIDE

Glossary of Terms

THE JEWISH FOUNDATION *for the righteous*

How Was it Possible?

A HOLOCAUST CURRICULUM FOR AND BY TEACHERS™

Glossary of Terms

A

Aktion:	German word meaning “action.” The term was used to refer to a roundup, usually of Jews, for the purpose of deporting or murdering.
Allies:	The countries of Great Britain, France, the Soviet Union, and the United States of America, who fought against the Axis powers during World War II.
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:	Usually abbreviated as the JDC or the “joint,” this organization helped Jews in Europe before, during and after the Holocaust . During the 1930s, the JDC gave money to persecuted German Jews. Once the war began, the organization sent aid to Jews in Poland, Transnistria and Western Europe, and helped to facilitate the illegal immigration of European Jews to Palestine. The JDC played a larger role after World War II, when it provided tremendous relief to displaced persons and helped distribute money to Holocaust survivors.
Anschluss:	German word meaning “union,” it referred to Germany’s annexation of Austria in March 1938.
Anti-Judaism:	Christian opposition to or hatred of the Jewish religion because of its refusal to recognize Jesus Christ as the Messiah and the belief that the Jews were responsible for Jesus’ crucifixion.
Antisemitism:	First widely used in the 1870s in Germany to differentiate modern, secular antipathy toward Jews from the centuries-old, traditional hatred of Jews derived from anti-Judaism , the term is now commonly used to denote the hatred of Jews in any of its forms. Antisemitism is based on the false idea that Jews constitute a separate race rather than simply a religion.
“Arbeit Macht Frei:”	Literally, “work makes you free” in German, this slogan appeared over the entrance gates of a number of concentration camps , including Dachau , Theresienstadt , and Auschwitz .
Arrow Cross:	Hungarian fascist political party founded in 1937, it is based on extreme nationalism , antisemitism , and anticommunism . The Arrow Cross seized power in October 1944 when Germany took over the Hungarian government and removed Admiral Miklos Horthy’s government after it tried to make a separate peace with the Allies . Once in power, the Arrow Cross cooperated fully with Germany carrying out the genocide of Hungary’s Jews.

Glossary of Terms

Aryan:	Originally used by scholars to refer to people speaking various Indo-European languages, racists in the 19 th century gave the term a racial meaning involving descent from “superior” Northern Europeans. Nazi “anthropologists” developed the idea of a superior Nordic race which was exemplified by characteristic Aryan physical features, including blond hair, blue eyes, and small noses, found most commonly among Germans, Dutch, and Scandinavians, whom Nazi ideology regarded as being of the highest “racial” status. Informally, during the Nazi era, the term was applied to anyone who was not a Jew or a Roma/Sinti .
Aryanization:	Nazis used this term to refer to the German government’s policy of removing all Jews from Germany’s economy and culture. That policy eventually included the forced transfer of all Jewish-owned businesses and other belongings to Germans, and the removal of all Jews from the professions and from all aspects of German art, music, theater, cinema, literature and media.
“Asocials:”	A term (in German, “ <i>Asoziale</i> ”) used by the Nazis beginning in 1937 to describe various categories of people considered undesirable and therefore subject to arrest and unlimited imprisonment in German concentration camps , where they served as a source of slave labor for the SS . “Asocials” included beggars, “vagrants,” “ruffians,” those suffering from venereal disease, prostitutes, homosexuals, drug addicts, alcoholics, “psychopaths,” and Roma/Sinti .
Atlantic Charter:	A joint declaration released by U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill on August 14, 1941, following a meeting of the two heads of government in Newfoundland. The Atlantic Charter provided a broad statement of U.S. and British war aims.
Auschwitz:	See Glossary of Places.
Autarky:	A country, state, or society, which is economically independent or self-sufficient.
Axis:	The World War II alliance, originally among Germany, Italy, and Japan, and later expanded to include Finland, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, and Bulgaria.

B

Babyn Yar (Babi Yar):	See Glossary of Places.
Balfour Declaration:	A letter published on November 2, 1917, written by Lord Arthur Balfour, Foreign Secretary in the World War I cabinet of British Prime Minister David Lloyd George, to British-Jewish leader Baron Rothschild. The Balfour Declaration stated Britain’s approval of the creation of a Jewish homeland in Palestine and committed the British government to using its “best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object,” without prejudice, however, to the “civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine...”

Glossary of Terms

Beer Hall Putsch:	The failed attempt in November 1923 by Adolf Hitler and other Nazi Party leaders to take control of the Bavarian government. The <i>putsch</i> (a secret and sudden attempt to overthrow the government) began when Hitler and the SA disrupted an official political rally held in a Munich beer hall. An armed clash the next day in the center of Munich between Hitler's followers (including World War I General Erich Ludendorff) and the Bavarian police resulted in the death of sixteen Nazis and four policemen, and led to Hitler's arrest, trial, and brief jail time for treason.
Bielski Partisans:	Jewish partisan group, operating in Western Belorussia (today Belarus) between 1942 and 1944. The Bielski partisans were one of the most significant Jewish resistance efforts during the Holocaust.
Belzec:	See Glossary of Places.
Bergen-Belsen:	See Glossary of Places.
Bermuda Conference:	A conference held on the island of Bermuda by representatives of the United States and Great Britain on April 19, 1943, to discuss ways to help wartime refugees. Organized in response to public demands in both countries for action to help the victims of what was by then widely known Nazi violence against civilian populations, especially Jews, the Bermuda Conference failed to offer any meaningful rescue efforts.
Birkenau:	See Auschwitz (Glossary of Places).
Blitzkrieg:	German word meaning "lightning war." The term refers to the military approach used by the German army during World War II of surprise attack using support from airplanes.
Blood Libel:	Antisemitic myth accusing Jews of murdering Christian children and using their blood to make matzo, the unleavened bread eaten by Jews during the Jewish holiday of Passover.
Blue Police:	Established by Governor-General Hans Frank on October 30, 1939, when he reinstated the pre-war Polish state police. They were instrumental in tracking down Jews in hiding and participated in executions, deportations, and terror campaigns throughout Poland.
Bolshevists:	The radical group within the Russian Socialist Party advocating the forcible overthrow of capitalism, which became the Communist Party in 1918. Hitler believed that Bolshevism and Jews were inextricably linked. He called Jews "the reservoir of Bolshevism" and used this as a justification for Operation Barbarossa .
Buchenwald:	See Glossary of Places.

Glossary of Terms

*Bund deutscher
Mädel:*

See **Hitler Youth**.

C

Chelmno: See Glossary of Places.

Claims Conference: Officially called the “Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany,” this umbrella organization, combining representatives of twenty-three different Jewish organizations, was established in 1951 to obtain payments for injuries suffered by Jewish victims of the **Nazis** and the return of lost of property taken by the Nazis. Since its creation, the Claims Conference has also extended its mission to secure compensation for Jewish slave laborers. The Claims Conference has provided compensation, as well as social service assistance, to **Holocaust** survivors.

Communism: An ideology put forth by Karl Marx in the 19th century advocating an end to capitalism by a worldwide workers’ revolution, which would lead to a classless society. By the interwar period, communist parties existed in many European countries and revolutions had been attempted in Russia, Germany and other countries with varying degrees of success. The Communist Party had wide popular appeal and a strong base in the **Reichstag** when **Hitler** became chancellor. In a key step towards eliminating political opponents and consolidating his power, Hitler blamed the **Reichstag fire** in February 1933 on the Communists and **Socialists** and had them arrested and detained in **concentration camps**. He then encountered little opposition in the Reichstag and was able to pass the **Enabling Act** in March 1933.

Concentration Camps: Prison camps first developed for military purposes by the Spanish in Cuba during the 1890s and used by the British during the Boer War (1899-1902). Concentration camps were used in Germany as soon as the **Nazis** came to power in 1933 to hold political enemies of the regime, and then, beginning in 1936, to hold **Roma/Sinti**, members of religious groups the Nazis did not approve of (mostly **Jehovah’s Witnesses**), homosexuals, habitual criminals and others deemed by the Nazis to be “**asocial** elements.” Following **Kristallnacht**, thousands of Jews were sent to concentration camps for a short time to scare them into moving out of Germany. During World War II, Germany established concentration camps throughout German-occupied Europe, mostly in Eastern Europe, at which time, in addition to the categories of prisoners already mentioned, the concentration camps held Jews, resistance fighters, and Polish and Soviet prisoners of war. More than 1,100 concentration camps and subcamps were established by the end of World War II. Concentration camp inmates were often used as slave laborers and some of the concentration camps started as **labor camps**. Other than **Auschwitz** and **Majdanek**, which combined concentration camp and **death camp** facilities, concentration camps were not formally connected with the death camps.

Glossary of Terms

Crematoria: Brick furnaces built at **death camps** and some **concentration camps** for the purpose of disposing of the corpses of camp inmates. At the death camp of **Birkenau** (Auschwitz II), each gas chamber was combined in a single building with its own crematorium, and each building containing this combined facility was called a “crematorium.”

Crystal Night: See **Kristallnacht** and **November Pogrom**.

D

Dachau: See Glossary of Places.

Death Camps: Devoted to the immediate killing of virtually all of their prisoners (except for those used to help operate the camps), and set apart by their facilities for industrial mass murder, these camps were the site of the murder of between 2,700,000 and 3,500,000 people, most of them Jews, between 1941 and 1944. All six death camps were located in German-occupied Poland. The first, **Chelmno**, began operating in December 1941, followed in 1942 by **Auschwitz** and **Majdanek**, and the three **Operation Reinhard** camps, **Belzec**, **Sobibor** and **Treblinka**. Also called **killing centers**.

Death March: The term usually refers to the German-enforced evacuation, on foot and under terrible conditions, into the center of Germany or Austria, of prisoners from **concentration camps** about to be liberated by the **Allies**. Most of the large movements of camp prisoners took place during the last nine months of the war following the collapse of the eastern front and the movement of Soviet troops toward the west. The prisoners on these marches, were forced to walk great distances, often in winter weather, without proper clothing, food, water or shelter. Already weakened by fatigue, starvation, and disease, they often died of exposure or were simply beaten to death or shot by their **SS** guards when they were unable to continue. It has been estimated that as many as 250,000 prisoners died in these marches. There were also forced marches ordered by Romanian dictator Ion Antonescu which resulted in the death of tens of thousands of Jews.

Deicide: Charge that Jews bear eternal responsibility for the death of Jesus Christ. This false claim has been used to justify violence against Jews for centuries. Christian leaders and historians have agreed that the claim is baseless.

Deportation: The transporting of **Nazi** Germany’s victims, usually by train in railroad boxcars, to **ghettos** or **concentration camps**, **labor camps** or **death camps**. Deportation most often meant death for those being sent away.

Der Stürmer: Weekly German tabloid published from 1923 to the end of the war, by **Julius Streicher**. It was virulently antisemitic. It was an effective propaganda tool used to educate the public of the necessity of removing Jews from society.

Glossary of Terms

Displaced Persons (DPs):	Refugees relocated by World War II who did not wish to be sent home to their country of origin after the war. They included anti-Soviet or anticommunist Eastern Europeans from countries that came under communist control after the war, and Jewish Holocaust survivors who found their native countries to be antisemitic , hostile, and, at times, violent to returning Jews.
Drancy:	See Glossary of Places.
Dreyfus Affair:	Debate involving Alfred Dreyfus , a Jewish captain in the French army, attached to the general staff, who was twice wrongly convicted of treason for spying for Germany. Dreyfus was first convicted by a court-martial in 1894, which sentenced him to Devil's Island. After a new trial was ordered by France's highest appeals court, Dreyfus was convicted by a second court-martial in 1899. Pardoned by a new liberal government elected as a result of the debate, Dreyfus was finally pardoned in 1906 by France's highest appeals court. His case set off a wave of antisemitism throughout France.

E

<i>Einsatzgruppen</i>:	Sometimes translated from German as “special action units” or “special strike forces,” the term generally refers to the mobile killing units of the SS that operated from 1941 to 1943 in the areas occupied by Germany as the German army advanced eastward into the center of the Soviet Union. Their purpose was to round up and kill Jews, Roma/Sinti , the handicapped, communists , and other enemies of the Reich . Before 1941, small <i>Einsatzgruppen</i> had supervised the removal of Jews and Poles to the General Government from the part of Poland that Germany had taken over, and supervised the establishment of the Łódź ghetto and ghettos in the General Government. When Operation Barbarossa began in June 1941, a total of 3,000 men, organized into four <i>Einsatzgruppen</i> , each responsible for a particular sector of the Eastern Front, advanced together with the German army as it swept across Eastern Europe. By the end of the war, these <i>Einsatzgruppen</i> , assisted by local volunteers and German Order Police and Waffen SS , had murdered some 2,000,000 Jewish men, women, and children usually by bringing them into trenches and shooting them.
Emergency Rescue Committee:	A privately funded volunteer organization based in New York City that helped approximately 2,000 Jewish refugees stranded in Vichy France by providing food, clothing, lodging, medical care and aid in emigration. Varian Fry , who was sent to Marseilles by the Emergency Rescue Committee in 1940 as its representative, directed the secret escape from France of hundreds of refugees between 1940 and 1941.
Enabling Act:	This law transferred all legislative power to Hitler and effectively handed him dictatorship of the country when it was passed in March 1933 during the Reichstag's first session after Hitler became chancellor of Germany.

Glossary of Terms

Enlightenment:	A European intellectual movement of the late 17th and 18th centuries emphasizing reason and individualism rather than tradition. It was heavily influenced by 17th-century philosophers such as Descartes, Locke, and Newton. It was during this period that Western European Jews were granted civil rights and citizenship.
Euthanasia:	See T4 .
Évian Conference:	An international conference called by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and held in the French resort town of Évian-les-Bains in July 1938 to discuss the Jewish refugee problem, which the increasing persecution of German and Austrian Jews had made more critical. Although thirty-two nations participated, the conference offered no help to the refugees. The conferees established the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees (ICR). Its goal was to find places that would accept refugees, but its lack of funding and authority resulted in failure. Once war broke out in 1939, the ICR became inactive.
Extermination Camps:	See Death Camps .

F

Fascism:	A 20 th century anti-democratic and anti-Marxist political movement emphasizing nationalism , inferiority of the individual to the service of the state and absolute loyalty to its leader. Some, but not all, fascist parties incorporated antisemitism into their platforms. Fascism flourished between 1919 and 1945, having become a serious political force as a result of the post-World War I economic and political disorder in Europe, the threat of communism following the Russian Revolution of 1917, and the worldwide depression of the 1930s. The first fascist party was founded in Italy in 1920 by Benito Mussolini , who named his party after the ancient Roman symbol of power, the <i>fascis</i> (which was a bundle of sticks bound to an ax). Fascist parties played an important political role in almost every European country and came to power in Italy, Germany, Spain, Romania, Slovakia, and Croatia. Even the democracies of France and England had major fascist movements.
“Final Solution:”	A term used by the Nazis beginning in 1941 as a term for the total annihilation of the Jews of Europe.
Flossenbürg:	See Glossary of Places.
FPO:	<i>Fareynegte Partizaner Organizatsye</i> (FPO) an underground Jewish organization active in the Vilna Ghetto. The FPO was established in January 1942; it consisted of members of the ghetto's Zionist youth movements. The FPO's first commander was Yitzhak Wittenberg. Wittenberg was arrested by the Germans in July 1943. Abba Kovner took over the FPO's command.

Glossary of Terms

Free French: The name of the armed forces of the French National Committee, which had been established in London after the fall of France to **Nazi** Germany in June 1940 to continue France's fight against Germany. The **Allies** and the leaders of the resistance in France accepted the authority of the French National Committee in exile, and its armed forces, directed by General **Charles de Gaulle**, took part in the Allied invasion of North Africa and in the invasion of southern France.

Führer: German word meaning "leader," it was the title given to **Adolf Hitler**, who was referred to in Germany as "*der [the] Führer*."

G

Gas Vans: Mobile gas chambers created by sending carbon monoxide from the exhaust pipes of trucks into the trucks' sealed rear compartments. First deployed by **Einsatzgruppen** in the late fall of 1941 to kill civilians and Soviet POW's, gas vans were the only method of gassing used at **Chelmno**, and eventually were the means by which approximately 700,000 people were murdered.

Genocide: First used in the 1944 book *Axis Rule in Occupied Europe*, the term was defined by its author, Raphael Lemkin, a Polish-Jewish lawyer, as the planned destruction of a national, religious or racial group.

Gentiles: Non-Jews.

General Government: See Glossary of Places.

German-Soviet Pact: See **Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact**.

Gestapo: Short for "*Geheime Staatspolizei*," meaning "Secret State Police" in German. The *Gestapo* had unlimited power to deal with political enemies of the **Nazi** regime and to put into effect German racial laws without regard to the civil rights of German citizens. In 1936 the *Gestapo* was put under the authority of **Himmler's SS** and, commanded by **Reinhard Heydrich**, it became a major part of Nazi oppression, committed to cruelly applying Nazi racial policy.

Glossary of Terms

- Ghetto:** A term first used in 16th century Venice, Italy to define the area of the city in which its Jews were segregated. The concept of a specific area within an urban center to which Jews were confined was reintroduced by Germany in 1939, but now to deadly effect. Shortly after Germany's invasion of Poland, the Germans established ghettos in western Poland, at first intended as collection centers for Jews from areas to be made available for "Aryan resettlement," in preparation for their mass **deportation** to the **General Government**. The ghettos that were established in German-occupied Eastern Europe were usually in a small section of the slum areas of towns or cities, to hold not only the towns' or cities' native Jewish population, but also Jews from surrounding areas and deportees from Germany and Western Europe. The severe overcrowding, inadequate food rations, and lack of medicines resulted in very high death rates among ghetto populations. Most ghettos were liquidated and their survivors either murdered or sent to **death camps** or **concentration camps** by the end of 1943, with the exception of the **Łódź ghetto**, which was not liquidated until August 1944.
- Gross-Rosen:** See Glossary of Places.
- Gypsy:** See **Roma/Sinti**.

H

- Henneicke Column:** Group of Dutch **Nazi** collaborators working in the investigative division of the Central Bureau for Jewish Emigration, headquartered in Amsterdam.
- Hitler Youth:** Paramilitary **Nazi Party** youth organization for boys between the ages of ten and eighteen founded in 1926. Under the leadership of Baldur von Schirach, who was selected to head the organization in 1931, it became a feature of German life, serving to indoctrinate its members in Nazi ideology and provide them with basic military training. In 1939 membership in the Hitler Youth became required. A youth group for girls, the League of German Girls (***Bund deutscher Mädel*** or ***BdM*** in German) offered traditional activities that reflected the **Nazi** ideology towards women.
- Hlinka Guard:** Militia in Slovakia established by the pro-Nazi Slovak People's Party after the **Munich Conference** of 1938. Members of the guard were given military training and were encouraged to hate Jews, Czechs, and supporters of the Left.
- Holocaust:** Derived from the Greek word "*holokauston*," meaning "a sacrificial offering burnt whole before the Lord," the word "holocaust" was commonly used in English to refer to great slaughters or massacres. In the 1960s the term came to be used by academics and popular writers, especially when capitalized and after "the," to name specifically the **genocide** of the Jews during World War II.

Glossary of Terms

I

**International
Military Tribunal
(IMT):**

See **War Crimes Trials**.

Iron Guard:

The Romanian **fascist** party, founded in 1927, commonly known by the name of its paramilitary organization, the Iron Guard. Violent and extremely **antisemitic**, in 1940 the party supported General Ion Antonescu in taking over the Romanian government, and installed Antonescu as head of a new pro-German government. In 1941 the party was outlawed after its unsuccessful attempt to seize power from Antonescu, in the course of which the Iron Guard murdered hundreds of Jews.

Isolationism:

A policy of national isolation by abstention from alliances and other international political and economic relations.

J

Jewish Police:

Jewish Ghetto Police or Jewish Police Service, also called the Jewish Police by Jews, were auxiliary police units organized within ghettos by local the local **Judenrat**.

Jehovah's Witnesses:

Christian religious sect, founded in the United States in 1872, it stresses Bible study and absolute obedience to biblical precepts. Its members acknowledge allegiance only to Jesus Christ, and therefore refuse to salute any flag, perform military service, or otherwise profess allegiance to any government. Jehovah's Witnesses were persecuted by the **Nazis** and sent to **concentration camps** where, it has been estimated that between 2,500 and 5,000 died.

Jewish Council:

See **Judenrat**.

"Jewish Question:"

"The Jewish Question," refers to the way in which Germans and Germany viewed and interacted with the German Jewish population. "The Jewish Question" was debated in many countries in Europe and also in the United States. By 1941 the debate of "The Jewish Question" moved from a territorial solution to annihilation.

Judenrat:

German word meaning "council of Jews." **Jewish Councils** (*Judenräte*) were established throughout German-occupied Europe to act as intermediaries between the Jews and the German governing authorities. Typically in Eastern Europe, each **ghetto** or a cluster of ghettos would be governed, within the limits imposed by the German authorities, by its own *Judenrat*; in Germany, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Slovakia, a single Jewish Council was responsible for the Jews of the entire country. Council members were usually major figures in the pre-war Jewish community.

Glossary of Terms

Judenfrei: German word meaning, literally, “free of Jews.” It was a term coined by the Germans to describe a place or area whose Jewish population had been eliminated through **deportation** or annihilation and used synonymously with the word **Judenrein**.

Judenrein: See **Judenfrei**.

K

Kapo: A word used to refer to a **concentration camp** or **labor camp** prisoner who supervised or guarded other camp prisoners, usually in return for special privileges such as better food, clothing, living conditions or easier work assignments.

Killing Centers: See **Death Camps**.

Kindertransport: German word meaning, literally, “children’s transport,” it refers to the program authorized by Britain in 1938 to permit up to 10,000 Jewish children (without their parents) from Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia to take refuge in England.

Konzentrationslager: German word for “**concentration camp**.”

Kristallnacht: In English, “Crystal Night,” the name given to the **Nazi**-instigated **pogroms** perpetrated throughout Germany, Austria, and the **Sudetenland** on the night of November 9-10, 1938, following the assassination of German embassy official Ernst vom Rath in Paris by a Jewish student, Herschel Grynzpan. Over 1,000 synagogues were destroyed, 7,500 Jewish shops looted, nearly 30,000 Jewish men sent to **concentration camps** and 91 Jews killed. The streets littered with broken glass from Jewish-owned businesses gave the massive pogrom its name, which is also known as the “Night of Broken Glass” and the **November Pogrom**.

L

Labor Camps: Camps established beginning in 1940 in western Poland and later throughout German-occupied Eastern Europe to use Jewish and non-Jewish prisoner forced labor in **SS** projects and in projects run by private German companies involved in the German war effort. Some labor camps were also run by the German armed forces. Some of Germany’s World War II allies, including Hungary, Romania and Slovakia, also established labor camps for Jews in those countries. Labor camps typically operated under conditions similar to those in **concentration camps**, and the German-run labor camps became part of the concentration camp system in 1943.

Glossary of Terms

<i>Lebensraum:</i>	German word meaning “living space,” it refers to the main idea in a theory popular among some scholars of international politics before World War I, that nations “naturally” compete for territory and resources to satisfy their populations’ basic needs. The theory became a guiding principle of Hitler’s foreign policy, explained as early as in <i>Mein Kampf</i> , in which he combined it with racism to argue that, as the “superior race,” Germans have the “moral right” to conquer and settle in the East, particularly in Poland and parts of the Soviet Union.
Le Chambon-Sur-Lignon:	See Glossary of Places.
Łódź ghetto:	See Glossary of Places.
<i>Luftwaffe:</i>	The name of the German air force during the Nazi regime headed by Hermann Göring .

M

Madagascar Plan:	One of the territorial solutions suggested to answer “The Jewish Question” was the Madagascar Plan. The Plan called for removing Jews from Europe by expelling them to the French-controlled island of Madagascar off the southeast coast of Africa. The Plan was proposed by the German Foreign Ministry in June 1940, had the support of the SS , and was approved in principle by Hitler , but Germany’s failure to defeat England ultimately made it impossible. Another potential solution, the Nisko Plan , which was proposed to settle Jews and Roma/Sinti in southeastern Poland, was also dismissed.
Majdanek:	See Glossary of Places.
Mauthausen:	See Glossary of Places.
Mechelen:	See Glossary of Places.
<i>Mein Kampf:</i>	Literally, “My Struggle,” the title of Hitler’s autobiography and political testament. Written in 1924 while Hitler was in prison for his role in the Beer Hall Putsch , it was published in two volumes, the first in 1925, and the second in 1926.

Glossary of Terms

- Mischlinge:** German word meaning “mixed breeds.” The word was used to describe persons of mixed German and Jewish descent who were legally classified as *Mischlinge* (singular, *Mischling*) under the terms of a decree of November 14, 1935, which was added to the **Nuremberg Laws**. *Mischlinge* generally had higher status in the **Nazi** racial hierarchy than Jews. A person’s status as a *Mischling* was based on the number of his or her Jewish grandparents (no more than two), and whether he or she practiced Judaism, was married to a Jew, or was the product of an “illegitimate” union between a Jew and an **Aryan**. If any of these conditions applied, the person was labeled a Jew and not a *Mischling*. If none of the conditions applied, the person was either a first degree *Mischling* (half Jew), if he had two Jewish grandparents, or a second degree *Mischling* (quarter Jew), if descended from only one Jewish grandparent. The term “*Mischlinge*” was also applied to people of mixed German and **Roma/Sinti** descent, with the **SS** making various classifications among them.
- Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact:** The non-aggression treaty between the Soviet Union and Germany sometimes called the “**German-Soviet Pact**,” signed August 23, 1939 (by the foreign ministers of those two nations, Vyacheslav Molotov and Joachim von Ribbentrop). In addition to promising that the principals would not attack one another, the pact contained a secret set of rules explaining how Poland would be divided between them. A week after signing the pact, Germany invaded Poland from the west, and, shortly thereafter, the Soviet Union invaded Poland from the east.
- Munich Conference:** Conference attended by French Premier Edouard Daladier, British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, Italian dictator **Benito Mussolini** and **Adolf Hitler** in Munich, Germany on September 29-30, 1938, ended in the signing of the **Munich Pact**.
- Munich Pact:** A treaty signed at the end of September 1938 by Britain, France, Italy and Germany in which Britain and France agreed not to oppose Germany’s invasion of the territory belonging to Czechoslovakia known as the **Sudetenland**, in return for **Hitler’s** promise not to claim any further territory. The treaty was broken within six months, when Germany occupied the rest of **Bohemia** and **Moravia** in March 1939, and again within another six months, when Germany invaded Poland on September 1, 1939, thus precipitating World War II.

N

- Nationalism:** Devotion to a nation and a sense of national consciousness which exalts one nation above all others with an emphasis on its culture and interests as opposed to or at the expense of others. During the 1920s and 1930s, the postwar instability in Europe was fertile ground for right-wing political parties including the **Fascist Party**, the **Arrow Cross**, the **Ustaša**, the **Iron Cross**, and the **Nazi Party**.

Glossary of Terms

National Socialism (Nazism):	German political movement started in 1920 with the organization of the National Socialist German Workers' Party , called the " Nazi Party " for short, and developed under the leadership of Adolf Hitler . The National Socialist movement (and its adherents called Nazis) was very nationalistic and intolerant, racist and extremely antisemitic , militaristic, antidemocratic, and anticommunist . It wanted to appeal to farmers, shopkeepers, small business owners, workers unhappy with Marxism, and those made insecure by the cultural, political and economic troubles of the interwar period in Germany.
Nativism:	A policy of favoring native inhabitants as opposed to immigrants, or the revival or perpetuation of an indigenous culture especially in opposition to acculturation.
Nazi:	See National Socialism (Nazism) .
Nazi Party or National Socialist German Workers' Party:	The political party of the National Socialist movement, it grew out of the German Workers' Party founded in Munich in 1919, whose name was changed the following year to the "National Socialist German Workers' Party" (in German, the " <i>Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei</i> " or "NSDAP"), or "Nazi Party," for short. Adolf Hitler was made leader of the party in 1921, and in the same year the party adopted as its official symbol a flag displaying a black swastika within a white circle against a red field. The party's initial political agenda involved the establishment of a Nazi dictatorship under the leadership of Adolf Hitler, and ending the limitations imposed on Germany by the Treaty of Versailles .
Neuengamme:	See Glossary of Places.
Night of the Long Knives:	The purge of the SA ordered by Adolf Hitler , in which approximately 100 members of the SA , including Ernst Röhm , were killed by units of the SS with German army support, during the night of June 30 – July 1, 1934.
Nisko Plan:	See Madagascar Plan .
Nuremberg Laws:	Anti-Jewish racial laws that furthered the exclusion of Jews from German life, announced at the annual Nazi Party rally in Nuremberg on September 15, 1935. The Nuremberg Laws included the " Reich Citizenship Law," which deprived Jews of the rights of citizenship, and the "Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honor," which prohibited marriage between Germans and Jews, and the employment of German maids in Jewish households. The Nuremberg Laws did not define who was a Jew; this was done by an additional decree issued November 14, 1935. (See <i>Mischlinge</i> .)
Nuremberg Trials:	See War Crimes Trials .

Glossary of Terms

O

Office of Jewish Emigration:	After the <i>Anschluss</i> , Adolf Eichmann directed this central office in Vienna, Austria. Under Eichmann's leadership, 45,000 Jews were forced out of Austria within six months, using confiscated Jewish property to finance their "emigration."
<i>Oneg Shabbat</i> (<i>Oyneg Shabbes</i>):	Hebrew term meaning "Sabbath delight," it was the code name for the secret operation headed by Emanuel Ringelblum who signed up writers, journalists, teachers and history students in the Warsaw ghetto to create a secret archive recording Jewish life in Poland under German occupation. Participants collected underground newspapers, minutes of meetings, letters, reports and statistics compiled by Jewish welfare organizations, and the testimony of Jews who had been in other ghettos or escaped from concentration camps , and alerted the Polish underground to the annihilation of the Jews. Most of the archives were hidden in three sealed milk cans, two of which were discovered after the war.
Operation Barbarossa:	The German code name for Germany's surprise invasion of the Soviet Union launched on June 22, 1941, twenty-two months after the two countries had promised non-aggression in the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact .
Operation Harvest Festival:	The goal of Operation Harvest Festival (<i>Aktion Erntefest</i>) was to kill all remaining Jews in the Lublin District of the General Government . The <i>Aktion</i> took place November 3-4, 1943, and was the largest German massacre during the Holocaust.
Operation Reinhard:	The plan to annihilate the approximately 2,200,000 Jews in the General Government , named after Reinhard Heydrich , the recently assassinated SS leader responsible for planning the completion of the " Final Solution ." Operation Reinhard involved the construction and operation of three death camps , Belzec , Sobibór , and Treblinka , deportations , and confiscation and processing of the victims' possessions, and utilized a team of about 450 Germans and hundreds of Ukrainian volunteers. Eventually extended to include the 200,000 Jews from Bialystok and its surroundings in northeastern Poland, Operation Reinhard succeeded in murdering more than 1,500,000 Jews by November 1943.
Order Police:	One of the two main divisions of the German police system during the Nazi regime (the other was the Security Police), it consisted of the uniformed municipal police, the rural police, and the police in small towns. Units of the Order Police assisted the German army as occupation troops in the East. Some Order Police units were assigned to <i>Einsatzgruppen</i> killing Jews in the Soviet Union in the summer and fall of 1941, and others participated in Operation Reinhard and Operation Harvest Festival .

Glossary of Terms

Ostjuden: German word meaning, literally, “Jews from the East”, the term was used to refer to unassimilated Orthodox Jews of Eastern Europe whose dress and outward appearance differed noticeably from that of the acculturated Jews of Germany.

P

Partisan: A resistance fighter or member of a group who takes up armed resistance against the occupying enemy force, this term refers to Jews and **gentiles** who managed to escape to the countryside and forests in **German**-occupied areas and joined or formed partisan groups to resist the Germans. The **Bielski Partisans** were a Jewish partisan group based in the forests of western **Belorussia** (today Belarus).

Pithiviers: See Glossary of Places.

Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia: See Glossary of Places.

Pogroms: From the Russian word meaning “devastation,” the word refers to mob attacks, often ignored or approved by government authorities, on religious, racial or national minorities, and, more specifically, refers to organized violent attacks on Jews. The first anti-Jewish pogroms of the modern era occurred in Tsarist Russia in the 1880s.

Protocols of the Elders of Zion: First published in Russia in 1905, and since then translated into many languages and distributed throughout the world, this book claims to reveal details of an international Jewish plan to take over the world. Even though the book is a known fake, created by the Tsar’s secret police to justify the Russian government’s persecution of Jews, its influence among **antisemites** was and remains dangerous.

Putsch: See **Beer Hall Putsch**.

R

Racism: A belief that race is the primary determinant of human traits and capacities and that racial differences produce an inherent superiority of a particular race and inferiority of others. The **Nazis’** belief in a superior **Aryan** “race” and the inferiority of Jews, **Roma/Sinti**, and others was the foundation of their ideology.

Ravensbrück: See Glossary of Places.

Reich: German word for “Empire,” the word was used by Germans to refer to their country. See also Glossary of Places.

Glossary of Terms

Reichsführer-SS:	Title meaning “Reich Leader of the SS ,” in effect, supreme leader of the SS . Heinrich Himmler was given this title in 1929, and he continued to hold it until a few days before the end of World War II.
Reichstag:	Germany’s parliament.
Reichstag Fire:	The fire in the Reichstag building in Berlin, deliberately set on the night of February 27, 1933, and claimed by the Nazis to be evidence of an imminent communist revolution. The fire served as a pretext for the roundup of the Nazis’ political opponents, especially communists and socialists , and for the granting of emergency powers to Adolf Hitler and the suspension of civil rights in Germany.
Resettlement:	A word often used euphemistically by the Nazis to mean the deportation of Jews or other victims of Nazi persecution to ghettos , or labor , concentration or death camps in the East.
Rhineland:	See Glossary of Places.
Righteous Among the Nations:	Sometimes called “Righteous Gentiles ,” the term refers to non-Jews who have been honored by Yad Vashem with this title for having risked their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust .
Roma/Sinti:	A close-knit communal people with a common biological, cultural and linguistic heritage, originally from northern India, who migrated into Europe in the 15 th and 16 th centuries. Their dark skin, refusal to abandon their customs and assimilate into the surrounding culture, and persistence in their nomadic existence caused concern and suspicion, and they were often victims of discrimination. The Nazis saw them as racially undesirable, and they became a major target of Nazi persecution. Although much reliable data is not available, of the nearly 1,000,000 Roma/Sinti in German-occupied Europe, estimates of the number murdered by the Germans range from a low of 130,000 to a high of 500,000. Formerly referred to as “ Gypsy ,” which is a derogatory term.
RSHA:	Abbreviation for “ <i>Reichssicherheitshauptamt</i> ” or “ Reich Security Main Office,” this bureau was established in September 1939 by combining the Gestapo (the German Secret Police) and the SD (the Security Service of the SS) under the leadership of Reinhard Heydrich .

Glossary of Terms

S

- SA:** Abbreviation for “*Sturmabteilung*,” the German word meaning “Storm Troops.” Known as the “Brown Shirts,” the SA was, during the **Weimar Republic** and the early years of the **Nazi** regime, the military arm of the **Nazi Party**, formed in 1921 to defend party meetings and to scare political enemies and Jews. It grew to more than four million members by 1934 under the leadership of Ernst Röhm, whose goals for the organization conflicted with **Hitler’s** plans; as a result, the SA’s leading members, including Röhm, were murdered during the **Night of the Long Knives**. Thereafter, the SA’s influence and membership waned as **Himmler’s SS** took over the SA’s role as the main tool of Nazi force in the **Third Reich**.
- Sachsenhausen:** See Glossary of Places.
- Schutzpass:** Literally, “Protective Passport,” this was an official-looking identification document created by the Swedish Legation in Budapest under the direction of **Raoul Wallenberg** stating that the holder was under the protection of the Swedish Legation until emigration to Sweden could be arranged. It is estimated that the group issued between fifteen and twenty thousand protective passports to Hungarian Jews desperate in 1944 to avoid the mass **deportations** then being conducted. Because Wallenberg and his assistants acted forcefully and heroically to enforce the claimed benefits of the passports against the Germans and Hungarians engaged in rounding up Jews, the *Schutzpass* served as a means to save thousands of Hungarian Jews.
- SD:** Abbreviation for “*Sicherheitsdienst*,” the German word meaning “Security Service.” The SD was the intelligence service of the **SS**, and was headed by **Reinhard Heydrich**, and, after Heydrich’s assassination in 1942, by Ernst Kaltenbrunner.
- Selection:** Word used to refer to the process of separating those camp prisoners deemed fit to work from those who would be killed immediately (such as the sick, elderly, small children and their mothers).
- Shoah:** Literally, “catastrophe,” this Hebrew term has come into use among many Jews, particularly in Israel, instead of the word “**Holocaust**,” to refer to the **genocide** of European Jewry during World War II.
- Sinti:** See **Roma/Sinti**.
- Sobibór:** See Glossary of Places.

Glossary of Terms

- Social Darwinism:** The application of biologist Charles Darwin's theory of natural selection and survival of the fittest to human society was first espoused in the 19th century by Germans such as Ernst Haeckel. In the 20th century, Social Darwinism informed **Hitler's racist** belief that a "superior" **Aryan** nation should rule the world and was the basis for the **Nazis'** racial policies and programs regarding "life unworthy of life" whose first victims were those of the **T4** program.
- Socialism:** A political ideology which took hold in the 19th century with the rise of the working class after the industrial revolution, socialism advocates fair distribution of wealth and an end to exploitation of the workers. Many socialist parties were established in the late 19th and early 20th centuries including the Social Democrats in Germany and the Bund, the Jewish socialist party, which flourished during the interwar years in Poland.
- Sonderkommando:** German word meaning "special commando," the term was applied to different kinds of special units involved in killing operations during the "**Final Solution**." The term often refers to units of Jewish prisoners in **concentration** or **death camps** who were responsible for removing bodies from gas chambers, burning them in **crematoria**, and disposing of the remains. Other *sonderkommando*, German and non-German, were charged with digging up burial pits, burning corpses, and eliminating all traces of mass murder. There were also *sonderkommando*, consisting of **SS** troops, who helped the *Einsatzgruppen*.
- SS:** Abbreviation for "*Schutzstaffel*," the German word meaning "Protective Squad." The SS was an exclusive, "racially elite" organization, personally loyal to **Adolf Hitler**, which began as Hitler's personal guard and, under the leadership of **Heinrich Himmler**, grew into a large police, military, and economic empire. It had its own secret intelligence office, (the **SD**), gained control over all German police forces, including the **Gestapo**, was in charge of the **concentration camp** system, and, after **Kristallnacht**, took control over Jewish emigration from the **Reich**. During the war its mission expanded. Ultimately it included enforcing **Nazi** racial policies, implementing the "**Final Solution**," and exploiting the concentration camps, **ghettos** and slave labor from German-occupied territories to serve its own industrial projects. The SS formed its own military arm, called the "**Waffen SS**," a "racially elite" armed force, instructed with Nazi ideology, in which almost 1,000,000 men from 15 nations served during World War II.
- St. Louis:** The name of the merchant ship that left Germany in May 1939 carrying 937 mostly German-Jewish refugees bound for Cuba with what they believed were valid entry permits. After being denied entry by Cuba and, in spite of pleas to President **Roosevelt** and widespread press coverage, the *St. Louis'* refugee passengers were forced to return to Europe. Although, finally given safe haven by Belgium, the Netherlands, Britain, and France, except for those passengers finding protection in Britain, many did not survive the war.

Glossary of Terms

Stutthof: See Glossary of Places.

Swastika: An ancient symbol found in many cultures that the **Nazi Party** adapted as its emblem. In 1935 the swastika also became the central symbol of the German national flag. It is illegal today to display the swastika in Germany.

T

T4: Informal name (after the address of its Berlin headquarters at Tiergarten 4) of the secret program in which German doctors systematically killed over 70,000 disabled and handicapped Germans between late 1939 and August 1941 as part of the **Nazi** racial policy of eliminating “life unworthy of life.” The killings were performed primarily at regional killing centers in Germany where victims were gassed with carbon monoxide in facilities disguised as shower rooms. Although supposedly ended in August 1941 because of public protests when news of the program leaked out, the killings, in fact, continued throughout the war as German doctors simply withheld treatment or administered drug overdoses to those deemed unfit to live, thus claiming an additional 150,000 victims in Germany alone. Many T4 personnel went on to use their training in the **death camps** in occupied Poland.

Theresienstadt (Terezin): See Glossary of Places.

Third Reich: The name that **Hitler** gave to his regime, which existed from 1933 to 1945. (The Second Reich had ended with the resignation of Kaiser Wilhelm II at the time of Germany’s defeat at the end of World War I.)

Transit Camps: Victims of **Nazi** persecution were gathered at transit camps for **deportation** to **ghettos**, **concentration camps** and **death camps**. Includes transit camps in France such as **Drancy**, Gurs, Rivesaltes, **Pithiviers**, and in Belgium, Breendonk and Mechelen.

Treaty of Versailles: Peace treaty signed by Germany, Great Britain, France and Italy in June 1919 marking the formal conclusion of World War I and establishing the terms of the peace. Under its terms a defeated Germany was forced, among other things, to accept complete responsibility for the war, pay large financial fines for the damages caused during the war, drastically reduce its army and navy and its production and importation of war materials, demilitarize all of its territory on the west bank of the Rhine River, and give up some 13% of its pre-World War I European territory to neighboring countries, including France, Poland and the new state of Czechoslovakia. The repudiation of the Treaty of Versailles was a major feature of the **Nazi Party’s** political agenda.

Treblinka: See Glossary of Places.

Glossary of Terms

Tripartite Pact: Defensive military alliance between Germany, Italy, and Japan signed on September 27, 1940.

U

Umschlagplatz: German word naming the place in a **ghetto** where Jews were brought together to be loaded onto nearby cattle cars for **deportation** to **concentration camps** or **death camps**.

Ustaša: Extreme right-wing Croatian **nationalist** movement founded in 1930 to seek Croatian independence from Yugoslavia. Its ideology combined **fascism**, **racist antisemitism**, reactionary Catholicism, and hatred of Serbs, Moslems, **Roma/Sinti** and Jews. Its followers engaged in brutal acts of terrorism and ethnic cleansing aimed at Serbs, Roma/Sinti, and Jews. After the occupation of Yugoslavia by Germany and Italy in April 1941, Germany supported the creation of an “independent” Croatia allied to the **Reich**. The new nation of Croatia teamed up with Germany in the **deportation** of its Jews and Roma/Sinti. It also created its own **concentration camps** where many Serbs, Jews and Roma/Sinti were killed.

V

Vichy or Vichy France: See Glossary of Places.

Vilna ghetto: See Glossary of Places.

Volksdeutsche: German word used to refer to ethnic Germans living as minorities in other countries, primarily in Central and Eastern Europe. They were given favored treatment in German-occupied territory, and were encouraged to settle in the Polish territory annexed to Germany and allowed to seize the property of **deported** Poles and Jews. Many *Volksdeutsche* joined the German army, the **SS** and police units operating against Jews, **Roma/Sinti** and **partisans** in the East.

Volk: German word meaning “the German people.”

Volksgemeinschaft: German word meaning the “people’s community.”

W

Waffen SS: See **SS**.

Glossary of Terms

Wannsee Conference: Meeting held on January 20, 1942, in the Berlin suburb of Wannsee at which leading **Nazi** officials from the **SS**, the government and various **Nazi Party** agencies met to discuss who would be in charge of the “**Final Solution**.” The officials in attendance were invited by **Reinhard Heydrich** to secure their cooperation with, and to coordinate with them, the plan outlined by Heydrich to **deport** millions of European Jews to the East, where they would be killed or used as slave labor. Conference participants, most of whom knew of the systematic murder of Jews already taking place in the Soviet Union, and some having even participated in the killing operations there, enthusiastically supported the plan.

War Crimes Trials: After promising during the war that the perpetrators of German atrocities against civilian populations would be brought to justice, the **Allies** decided to try **Nazi** Germany’s most important leaders in the German city of Nuremberg under the support of a judicial court made up of judges from the four principal Allied powers (the United States, Britain, France, and the Soviet Union) known as the “**International Military Tribunal**” (**IMT**). At the trial, which was held between October 1945 and October 1946, twenty-four of Nazi Germany’s most important surviving leaders and six organizations were charged with “crimes against peace,” “war crimes,” and “crimes against humanity.” Of the twenty-four individual defendants, one killed himself, one was deemed unfit for trial, and one was tried and condemned in absentia. Twenty-two were tried and sentenced. Three were found not guilty, twelve were found guilty and sentenced to death, and seven were found guilty and sentenced to prison. In reaching its decisions, the IMT ruled that following the orders of superiors was not a valid defense to the crimes of which the defendants were accused, and also that there would be no statute of limitations on these crimes. The judgments reached by the IMT at Nuremberg were later incorporated into international conventions dealing with war, human rights, and **genocide**.

In addition to the **Nuremberg trial** conducted by the IMT, each of the Allied powers held war crimes trials in their own occupation zones in Germany during the immediate post-war years. American military courts held twelve additional trials in Nuremberg between December 1946 and April 1949, sometimes called the “Nuremberg Successor Trials,” including, among others, the trial of twenty-three Nazi doctors and members of the German medical establishment for their involvement in the **T4** program and in “medical experiments” in **concentration camps**, the trial of sixteen judges for crimes involving the enforcement of the **Nuremberg Laws**, and the trials of representatives of certain German companies, including I.G. Farben and Krupp, for their use of slave labor. British military courts conducted hundreds of war-crimes trials in Britain’s zone of occupation in Germany between September 1945 and December 1949, including trials of the commandants and staffs of various concentration camps. Also, the Federal Republic of Germany conducted war-crimes trials, as did countries throughout Europe, including, in some cases, trials of their own nationals for their joining in the Nazi agenda.

Glossary of Terms

Warsaw ghetto: See Glossary of Places.

Warsaw Ghetto Uprising: In the course of the massive **deportations** from the **Warsaw ghetto** during the summer and fall of 1942, underground leaders in the **ghetto** formed two armed resistance organizations, the “Jewish Fighting Organization” or “**ZOB**” and the “Revisionist-Zionist Jewish Military” or “**ZZW**.” When deportations of the ghetto’s remaining population of about 60,000 resumed in April 1943, armed resistance began. Approximately 700 poorly armed, inexperienced, and vastly outnumbered ghetto resistance fighters managed to hold off several thousand **SS** troops for more than three weeks, in the longest anti-German uprising of the war. The German tactic of burning down every residential block in the ghetto resulted in the destruction of the **ZOB**’s headquarters and death of its leader, **Mordecai Anielewicz**, and by the middle of May ended the revolt. German casualties were minimal, with 16 dead and 85 wounded, while approximately 13,000 Jews died in the fighting. Virtually all of the ghetto’s surviving inhabitants were deported to **Treblinka** and **Majdanek**.

Wehrmacht: The armed forces of Germany in period from 1935-1945.

Weimar Republic: The democratic federal republic that came to power in Germany in 1919 under a constitution written in Weimar, Germany after Kaiser Wilhelm II fled the country following Germany’s defeat at the end of World War I. The Weimar Republic lasted until 1933, when **Adolf Hitler** became chancellor and suspended the constitution.

Westerbork: See Glossary of Places.

White supremacist: A person who believes that the white race is inherently superior to other races and that white people should have control over people of other races.

X

Xenophobia: Fear and hatred of strangers or foreigners or of anything that is strange or foreign.

Y

Yad Vashem: See Glossary of Places.

Vichy France: See Glossary of Places.

Yiddish: Language native to Jews of Central and Eastern Europe, it developed from medieval German dialects to which some Hebrew vocabulary and, as European Jews moved eastward, Slavic influences, were added. It is written using Hebrew characters.

Vilna Ghetto: See Glossary of Places.

Glossary of Terms

Z

- Żegota:** Code name for the “Council for Aid to the Jews,” an underground organization of Poles and Jews that operated between 1942 and 1945 to assist Jews in German-occupied Poland. *Żegota* helped rescue Jews by providing hiding places, false identification papers, foster homes for Jewish children, and medical and financial assistance. *Żegota* as an organization was honored by **Yad Vashem** as **Righteous Among the Nations**.
- Zionism:** Jewish nationalist movement that arose in the late 19th century among European Jews confronting the dilemmas of assimilation and increasingly dangerous **antisemitism**. Supporters of Zionism, among whom Viennese journalist Theodor Herzl is the leading figure, argued that assimilation would never get rid of antisemitism, and that Jews must seek freedom as a people through the revival of a Jewish national identity and culture in their own state in Palestine. The first international Zionist congress, held in Basel, Switzerland in 1897, marked the start of a movement that led to the founding of the State of Israel in 1948. Before **Hitler** came to power, Zionism held little appeal to most assimilated Jews in Western and Central Europe, and immigrants to Palestine were largely poor, unassimilated Eastern European Jews. After 1933, increasing numbers of Western European Jews immigrated to Palestine, a process that was halted by Hitler’s “**Final Solution**.” Confronted with the murder of 6,000,000 Jews in the **Holocaust**, Jews changed their attitudes toward Zionism; after the end of World War II the continued survival of the State of Israel became a very important concern to Jews around the world.
- ŻOB:** See **Warsaw Ghetto Uprising**.
- Zyklon B:** The commercial name of hydrogen cyanide, the pesticide used as poison gas in the gas chambers of **Auschwitz** and **Majdanek**. The gas chambers of **Sobibór**, **Belżec** and **Treblinka** and the mobile gas vans at **Chelmno** used carbon monoxide.
- ŻZW:** See **Warsaw Ghetto Uprising**.