

WORLD WAR II/HOLOCAUST TIMELINE

ROAD TO WAR

ROAD TO HOLOCAUST PREJUDICE and DISCRIMINATION

1933

January 30 Adolph Hitler appointed Chancellor of Germany.

March 23 First concentration camp opened at Dachau.

March 27 Enabling Acts suspending civil liberties.

April 1 – 20 Jewish shops and businesses boycotted nationwide.

Jewish professionals excluded from government jobs, including teaching.
Jewish dietary laws prohibited.

Spring – Summer Public burning of books by Jews and other anti-Nazis.

Jewish professors expelled from universities.
Jewish writers and artists prohibited from practicing their professions.

October 7 Germany withdraws from League of Nations.

July Laws passed permitting forced sterilization of those considered “inferior”
Protests by American organizations of Nazi persecution Of Jews.

1934

August 2 Hitler names himself “Führer” over both Government and party.

October First major arrests of homosexuals throughout Germany.

1935

March Germany enacts draft law violating Treaty Of Versailles

April Jehovah’s Witnesses barred from civil service jobs and many arrested.

May – November Jews barred from serving in the German armed forces.

Nuremberg Laws enacted.
Jews could not be German citizens.

Jews could not marry Aryans.
Jews could not fly the German flag.

Jew defined as one with two or more Jewish grandparents.

WORLD WAR II/HOLOCAUST TIMELINE (Continued)

ROAD TO WAR

ROAD TO HOLOCAUST INDOCTRINATION and DISCRIMINATION

1936

March 7 Nazi army marches into Rhineland.
 May 5 Ethiopia occupied by Italy.
 October Rome-Berlin Axis agreement signed

March 3 Jewish doctors barred from practicing in government institutions.
 July First Gypsies arrested and sent to Dachau.

1937

July 16 Buchenwald concentration camp opened.

1938

July Evian Conference to discuss refugee policies.
 September Munich Pact signed. Britain and France agree to Turn over Sudetenland.

March 13 Austria annexed by Germany. All German anti-Semitic laws immediately apply In Austria
 April Jews in Reich must register all property with the Authorities.
 August All Jewish men required to add “Israel” to their name and Jewish women “Sarah”.
 October First Polish Jews deported from Germany. At Swiss request, Germans order all Jewish passports stamped with a “J”.
 Nov. 9 Kristallnacht following assassination of von Rath.
 Anti-Jewish program in Germany and Austria
 200 synagogues destroyed.
 7500 Jewish shops looted.
 30000 Jewish men arrested; many sent to concentration camps.
 Nov. 12 Decree forcing all Jews to transfer Jewish businesses to Aryan hands.
 Jewish pupils expelled from German Schools.
 December Gypsies in Germany required to register with the Police.

WORLD WAR II/HOLOCAUST TIMELINE (Continued)

ROAD TO WAR

ROAD TO HOLOCAUST INDOCTRINATION and DISCRIMINATION

1939

March	Germany invades Czechoslovakia.	Jan.	Hitler states that if war erupts it will mean the extermination of European Jews.
		May	Ravensbruck concentration camp for women established.
		June	Jewish refugees aboard SS St. Louis denied entry to Cuba and US.

ROAD TO WAR

ROAD TO HOLOCAUST PERSECUTION

1939

August	Germany and USSR sign non-aggression pact. Russia invades Eastern Poland.		
September 1	Beginning of World War II. Germany invades Poland.		
September	France and Britain declare war on Germany.	Sept.	Ghettoization of Polish Jews ordered. Judenrat established.
		Oct.	Hitler authorizes "euthanasia program" (T-4).
		Nov.	Jews in occupied Poland forced to wear distinguishing badge.

1940

May	Nazis conquer Denmark, Norway, Belgium, Luxemborg, Holland and France.	Feb. April	Lodz Ghetto established, sealed in April. Concentration camp established in Auschwitz.
August	Battle of Britain begins.		
Sept.	Rome-Berlin-Tokyo Axis formed. 500,000 people.	Oct.	Warsaw Ghetto established, sealed in Nov. with 500,000 people.
Nov.	Hungary, Romania and Slovakia join Axis.		

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ROAD TO WAR

ROAD TO HOLOCAUST PERSECUTION

1941

		Jan.	Anti Jewish riots in Romania.
		Jan.	Dutch Jews required to register.
		March	Himmler orders construction of camp at Birkenau.
May	Nazis invade North Africa and occupied Yugoslavia and Greece.	Spring	Ghettos established at Lublin, Minsk, Krakow, Vilna and others.
June	Nazis invade the USSR.	June	Einsatzgruppen begin mass murder of Jews and Gypsies.
		July	Authority given to prepare a “total solution” to Jewish problem.
		Sept.	First experiment gassing at Auschwitz.
		Sept.	Jews in the Third Reich must wear the Star of David.
		Sept.	33,000 Jews massacred at Babi Yar.
		Sept.	First deportation of German and Austrian Jews to ghettos in East.
		Oct.	Construction of extermination camps at Majdanek, Belzec and Birkenau.
Dec. 7	Japan attacks Pearl Harbor		
Dec. 11	Germany and Italy declare war on U.S.		
Dec.	Gassing operations begin at Chelmno.		

1944

March	Nazis occupy Hungary.	May	Deportation of Hungarian Jews begins. 437,000 sent to Auschwitz.
June	Allied invasion of Normandy. Nazis in retreat on the Russian front.	July	Soviets liberate Majdanek extermination camp.
		Aug.	Gypsy Camp at Auschwitz destroyed. 3,000 Gypsies gassed.
		Oct.	Revolt by Auschwitz inmates; one crematorium blown up.
		Nov.	Last Jews deported from Theresienstadt to Auschwitz.

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ROAD TO WAR

ROAD TO HOLOCAUST PERSECUTION

1945

January	Soviets liberate Auschwitz	January	Nazis evacuate Auschwitz; “death marches” of inmates begin.
April	Mussolini executed by Italian partisans.	Spring	Liberation of camps. British liberate Bergen-Belsen. Americans liberate Dachau. Ravensbruck liberated.
April	Hitler commits suicide.		
May 2	Soviet army captures Berlin.		
May 8	Nazi Germany surrenders; end of WWII in Europe.	November	First major Nuremberg war Crimes Trial begins.

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