

■ 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<i>Anschluss</i> (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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <i>Einsatzgruppen</i> 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 millions Jews.

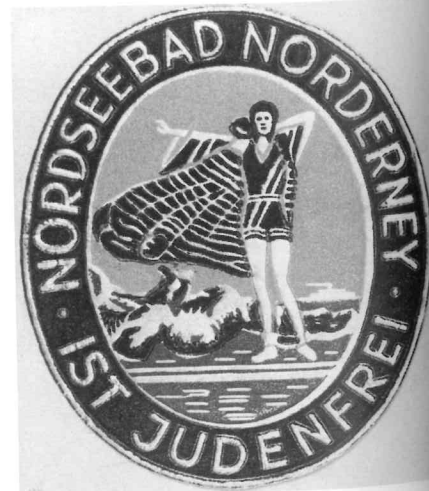
SOURCE 18.15 Shop boycott. The placard accuses the Jewish owners of damaging German crafts and paying their workers hunger wages



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'



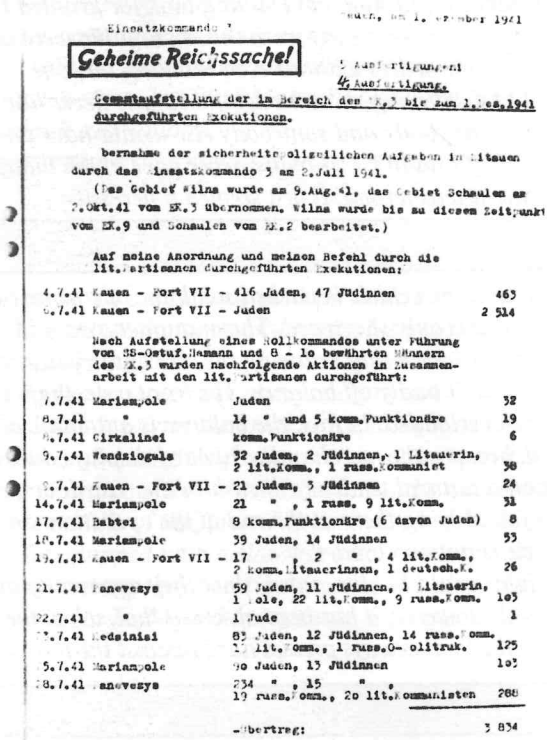
1940 July
 1940-Aug 1941
 1941 June
 July (or possibly Oct)
 Sept
 Oct
 Dec
 1942 Jan
 Dec

Plan drawn up to transport 4 million western Jews to Madagascar
 70,000 mentally ill people gassed
 War against the USSR. Political killings ordered. Half a million Jews shot
Decision taken to embark on 'Final Solution'
 German Jews ordered to wear Star of David
 Emigration banned. Mass deportation of German Jews to the east begins
 Soviet resistance blocks plans to move Jews to beyond the Urals
 Mass gassing of Jews at Chelmno camp begins
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



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**