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**Topic Information: Holocaust Research Project**

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| **Topic** | **Background Information** |
| Nazi Racial Beliefs (Introductory) | Nazi social and political beliefs allowed them to justify military aggression in Europe and the deaths of millions. |
| Anti-Semitic Laws (Introductory) | In the 1930s and 1940s, the Nazis enacted a series of increasingly restrictive laws that curtailed the rights of Jews. |
| Hitler’s Youth | Hitler’s organization for children and teenagers, used to teach Nazi philosophy. |
| Kristallnacht – Night of Broken Glass | A wave of violent anti-Jewish attacks which occurred throughout Nazi Germany on November 9 and 10, 1938. |
| The Ghettos | Enclosed Jewish districts set up by the Nazis. The purpose of the ghettos was to isolate Jews by separating them from the non-Jewish population and from other Jewish communities. |
| The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising | For nearly one month in April and May of 1943, the Jews living in the ghetto of Warsaw, Poland fought against Nazi efforts to transport them to work and death camps. |
| The SS, the Gestapo, and the Einsatzgruppen | Three branches of the German police organization, responsible for carrying out Nazi policies and, in the case of the Gestapo, for espionage and counter-espionage. |
| The Final Solution | Hitler’s plan to annihilate European Jews |
| Nazi Medical Experiments | During World War II, a number of German physicians conducted painful and often deadly experiments on thousand of concentration camp prisoners without their consent. |
| The Voyage of the *St. Louis* | In 1939, the German ship *St. Louis* carried nearly a thousand Jewish passengers across the Atlantic. The passengers were seeking temporary asylum in Cuba, and ultimately, in the U.S. |
| Hidden Children | Thousands of Jewish children survived the Holocaust because they were “hidden,” either by assuming different identities or by being physically hidden away. |
| The Kindertransport | Translated as “Children's Transport,” this was the name given to a series of rescue efforts that brought thousands of refugee Jewish children to Great Britain from Nazi Germany between 1938 and 1940. |
| Concentration/Labor Camps | Concentration camps served primarily as detention centers for members of the population who were considered enemies of the German state. |
| Death Camps | Also known as “extermination camps” or “killing centers,” these sites were specifically designed for the mass murder of human beings. |
| Thereisenstadt/Terezin | Nazi “show” camp, used to fool the International Red Cross and the rest of the world about the conditions in the concentration camps. |

**Resisters and Rescuers**

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| Raoul Wallenberg |  | Each of these individuals or groups either worked secretly to undermine the Nazi government (Resisters) or risked their own lives to rescue or provide aid to those whose lives were directly threatened by Hitler’s regime (Rescuers). |
| Oskar Schindler |  |
| Rut Matthijsen |  |
| The White Rose |  |
| Hanna Szenes |  |
| Chiune Sugihara |  |
| Mordecai Anielwicz |  |
| Marcel Marceau |  |
| The Village of Chambon |  |
| Januz Korczak |  |
| Dietrich Bonhoeffer |  |
| Henry Hulstein |  |
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