

A Jewish man from Mukachevo awaits selection in Auschwitz-Birkenau.

# THE HOLOCAUST

A TIMELINE

- January 30, 1933 Adolf Hitler is appointed Chancellor of Germany a nation with a Jewish population of 505,000 – population in Germany 67 million
  - Germany had lost WWI, was required to make reparations to allies, and was forced to accept blame for the war among other things
  - The US stock market crash of 1929 caused a world wide economic crisis
  - Hitler is appointed chancellor in 1933 Germany thinks he will bring Germany back to its former glory

# HITLER APPOINTED CHANCELLOR



On the day of his appointment as German chancellor, Adolf Hitler greets a crowd of enthusiastic Germans from a window in the Chancellery building. Berlin, Germany, January 30, 1933

- February 22, 1933 40,000 SA and SS men are sworn in as auxiliary police.
- February 27, 1933 Reichstag building fire was used to create crisis atmosphere.
- **February 28, 1933** Emergency powers granted to Hitler as a result of the Reichstag fire.
- March 22, 1933 Nazis open Dachau concentration camp near Munich, to be followed by Buchenwald near Weimar in central Germany, Sachsenhausen near Berlin in northern Germany, and Ravensbruck for women, fifty miles north of Berlin.

- July 14, 1933 Nazi Party is declared the only legal party in Germany; Also, Nazis pass law to strip Jewish immigrants from Poland of their German citizenship.
- July 1933- Nazis pass law allowing for forced sterilization of those found by a Hereditary Health Court to have genetic defects.
- Nov. 24, 1933 Nazis pass the Law against Habitual and Dangerous Criminals, which allows beggars, the homeless, alcoholics and the unemployed to be sent to concentration camps.
- 1934 Hitler combines the positions of chancellor and president to become "Fuhrer," or leader, of Germany.
- Sept. 15, 1935 Nuremberg Race Laws against Jews decreed.

# NUREMBERG RACE LAWS



Antisemitic sign reading, in German, "Juden sind hier unerwunscht" (Jews Are Unwanted Here).

# NUREMBERG RACE LAWS

Deprived Jews of rights of citizenship

Prohibited marriage or sexual relations with Aryans

Prohibited employment of Aryans as household

help



Child's passport of Ellen Markiewicz. Eugenics poster entitled "The Nuremberg Law for the Protection of Blood and German Honor.



- **February 10, 1936 -** The German Gestapo is placed above the law.
- August 1-16, 1936 The Olympic Games are held in Berlin, Germany; signs barring Jews are removed until the event is over. American Jesse Owens wins four gold medals in track and field.
- April 26, 1938 Nazis order Jews to register wealth and property.
- June 14, 1938 Nazis order Jewish-owned businesses to register.
- July 23, 1938 Nazis order Jews over age 15 to apply for identity cards from the police, to be shown on demand to any police officer.
- October 5, 1938 Law requires Jewish passports to be stamped with a large red "J."

- November 9/10, 1938 Kristallnacht The night of broken glass
- November 12, 1938 Nazis fine Jews one billion marks for damages related to Kristallnacht.
- November 15, 1938 Jewish pupils are expelled from all non-Jewish German schools.
- May 1939 The St. Louis, a ship crowded with 930 Jewish refugees, is turned away by Cuba, the United States and other countries and returns to Europe.
- **Sept 1, 1939** Nazis invade Poland (Jewish pop. 3.35 million, the largest in Europe).
- Oct 1939- Nazis begin euthanasia on sick and disabled in Germany.

# NY TIMES - NOVEMBER 10, 1938

Below is an example of an article title from *The New York Times on November* 9-10, 1938

BERLIN RAIDS REPLY TO DEATH OF ENVOY; Nazis Loot Jews' Shops, Burn City's Biggest Synagogue to Avenge Paris Embassy Aide Nazi Guards Watch Vandalism Jewelry Shop Looted. BERLIN RAIDS REPLY TO DEATH OF ENVOY An official Warning Jews' Leader Deplores Shooting Blood Transfusions in Vain

# **KRISTALLNACHT**



As the synagogue in Oberramstadt burns during Kristallnacht (the "Night of Broken Glass"), firefighters instead save a nearby house. Local residents watch as the synagogue is destroyed. Oberramstadt, Germany, November 9-10, 1938.

- March 7, 1941 German Jews ordered into forced labor.
- Oct 5, 1942 Himmler orders all Jews in concentration camps in Germany to be sent to Auschwitz and Majdanek.
- June 1944 Eva Ginz begins her diary in the Terezín Ghetto, Czechoslovakia
- In 1945 As Allied troops advance, the Nazis conduct death marches of concentration camp inmates away from outlying areas.
- Jan 27, 1945 Soviet troops liberate Auschwitz. By this time, an estimated 2,000,000 persons, including 1,500,000 Jews, have been murdered there

- April 15, 1945 Approximately 40,000 prisoners freed at Bergen-Belsen by the British, who report "both inside and outside the huts was a carpet of dead bodies, human excreta, rags and filth."
- April 23, 1945 Berlin is reached by Russian troops.
- April 29, 1945 U.S. 7th Army liberates Dachau.
- April 30, 1945 Hitler commits suicide in his Berlin bunker.
- November 20, 1945 Opening of the Nuremberg International Military Tribunal.