

26th January 2005

Embargo: Thursday 27th January 00.01am

QUEEN LEADS UK'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY COMMEMORATIONS

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are to be the guests of honour today [27th January] at a special event to mark the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the death camp at Auschwitz-Birkenau. The commemoration at the Palace of Westminster brings together more than 600 Holocaust survivors living in Britain, together with British soldiers who helped to liberate Bergen-Belsen death camp. Others in attendance include religious and political leaders.

Organised by the Home Office, the event will be attended by the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary. Earlier in the day, the Queen will host a private reception for survivors at St James's Palace.

The anniversary coincides with the UK's fifth annual Holocaust Memorial Day marked by more than 500 separate community and school events across the UK, from Cardiff to Edinburgh, Norwich to Jersey and Aberdeen to the Isle of Wight.

The Earl of Wessex will represent the UK at a simultaneous international ceremony attended by 29 leaders from around the globe, to be held at Auschwitz itself.

The Westminster event - which begins at 2.30pm and is to be broadcast at 7pm on BBC TWO - is the centrepiece of the UK's commemorations. The Queen will lead survivors in the lighting of sixty memorial candles, while grandchildren of survivors read the names of 3000 relatives who perished at the hands of the Nazis.

A oratorio based on Anne Frank's diary - the libretto of which was adapted by Melanie Challenger - will be performed by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and introduced by Hannah Pick, one of Anne Frank's former classmates and herself a survivor. Others due to participate in the event include: the Chief Rabbi, Dr Jonathan Sacks; Paul Oppenheimer, a survivor; actors Christopher Eccleston and Stephen Fry; and Sven

Goran Eriksson, the England football manager who took the team to visit Auschwitz prior to a match in Poland in autumn 2004.

The Home Secretary, Charles Clarke, said:

“The Holocaust and the lessons it teaches us should never be forgotten. There is no place for extremism and racism in Britain. But as we remember the many who lost their lives we are reminded that the responsibility of ensuring a democratic and tolerant society, free of the evils of prejudice, racism and other forms of bigotry, lies on us all. This fifth Holocaust Memorial Day focuses on the personal experiences of the survivors and liberators. I hope that as many as possible will take the opportunity to listen and reflect on what they have to say.”

Dr Stephen Smith, the Chair Designate of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, which will take over responsibility for the day from the Home Office for 2006, added:

“Today’s generation is the last that will have the opportunity to hear at first hand the testimony of survivors and liberators of the Holocaust. We have a responsibility to lend them our voices and to find ways to continue to educate and inform our children, and their children, about the Holocaust and Nazi persecution. This is a precious responsibility, not just as a commemoration for all those who suffered, but as a reminder that the lessons of the Holocaust are as relevant today as ever.”

ENDS

For more information please contact Meg Baker, Ben Rich, Aideen Lee or Rachel Hudson, at Luther Pendragon on 020 7618 9100 or email hmd@luther.co.uk

Notes to Editors

Photographs from the event will be available from Press Association Picture Desk on 020 7963 7143 or via the wire service.

About the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust

The Trustees of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust are Jane Clements, Paula Cowan, Louise Ellman MP, Jack Gilbert, Henry Grunwald QC, Agnes Grunwald-Spier, Judith Hassan, Ben Helfgott, Rabbi Barry Marcus, Karen Pollock, David Russell and Dr Stephen Smith.

The Trust is an independent charitable organisation responsible for taking forward the delivery of Holocaust Memorial Day from 2006 onwards. The Home Office Faith Communities Unit currently manages Holocaust Memorial Day.

About Holocaust Memorial Day

Holocaust Memorial Day has been an annual event in the UK since 2001. It is held on the 27th January each year to coincide with the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1945. The purpose of the day is to commemorate all victims of Nazi persecution and to show that the events of the Holocaust remain relevant to everyone in the UK today. Holocaust Memorial Day 2005 is to be marked by thirteen countries across Europe including Germany, Italy and France. Please see website for more information: www.holocaustmemorialday.gov.uk

Holocaust Memorial Day aims to:

1. Recognise that the Holocaust was a tragically defining episode of the 20th century, a crisis for European civilisation and a universal catastrophe for humanity.
2. Provide a national mark of respect for all victims of Nazi persecution and demonstrate understanding with all those who still suffer its consequences.
3. Raise awareness and understanding of the events of the Holocaust as a continuing issue of fundamental importance for all humanity.
4. Ensure that the horrendous crimes, racism and victimisation committed during the Holocaust are neither forgotten nor repeated, whether in Europe or elsewhere in the world.
5. Restate the continuing need for vigilance in light of the troubling repetition of human tragedies in the world today.
6. Reflect on recent atrocities that raise similar issues.
7. Provide a national focus for educating subsequent generations about the Holocaust and the continued relevance of the lessons that are learnt from it.
8. Provide an opportunity to examine our nation's past and learn for the future.
9. Promote a democratic and tolerant society, free of the evils of prejudice, racism and other forms of bigotry.
10. Support the view that all citizens - without distinction - should participate freely and fully in the economic, social and public life of the nation.

11. Highlight the values of a tolerant and diverse society based upon the notions of universal dignity and equal rights and responsibilities for all its citizens.
12. Assert a continuing commitment to oppose racism, antisemitism, victimisation and genocide.
13. Support our shared aspirations with both our European partners and the wider international community centred on the ideals of peace, justice and community for all.

Holocaust Memorial Day 2005

The UK's fifth annual Holocaust Memorial Day is on 27 January 2005, marking the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the former Nazi concentration and extermination camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau, in 1945.

Holocaust Memorial Day's aims are:

- To remember all victims of the Holocaust and Nazi persecution - Jews, Roma and Sinti (Gypsies), East European civilians, Russian prisoners of war, trade unionists, Communists, political opponents, disabled people, Jehovah's Witnesses, gay men and lesbians, and Black Germans.
- To reflect upon those affected by more recent atrocities, such as in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Kosovo.
- To educate about the dangers of anti-Semitism, racism and all forms of discrimination.
- To promote community cohesion so that the diversity of people's different backgrounds and circumstances are appreciated and positively valued, and to establish a greater sense of citizenship.

Holocaust Memorial Day 2005 has a specific theme - **Survivors, Liberation and Rebuilding Lives**. Holocaust Memorial Day 2005 coincides with the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the concentration camps. This presents one of the greatest opportunities to show our respect for the survivors of Nazi persecution and mass murder, and to listen to what they can tell us about the best and the worst of human behaviour. Holocaust Memorial Day 2005 is also an opportunity to hear the stories of those who liberated the camps, what they saw and how this impacted on their lives.

Paul Oppenheimer

Paul Oppenheimer was born in Berlin in 1928. His brother Rudi was also born in Berlin, in 1931 but his sister Eve was born in London in 1936, during a six-month spell whilst the family moved from Germany to Holland.

In May 1940, the Germans invaded Holland and within five days, the Dutch army surrendered. The Oppenheimer family was rounded up in Amsterdam in June 1943 and sent to Westerbork, but they were exempt from deportation to Auschwitz or Sobibor because Eve was a British citizen. In Westerbork, the family were classified as “Exchange Jews”, people the Nazis wanted to exchange against Germans held by the Allies. After seven months in Westerbork, in February 1944, all five were deported to Bergen-Belsen in Germany. Paul was then 15 years old, Rudi 12 and Eve was only 7.

They had certain privileges in the Exchange Camp in Belsen. They were allowed to wear their civilian clothes with the yellow star and the camp became known as the Star Camp. They did not have to wear the usual black-and-white striped pyjama outfits or have their hair shaved off. They were allowed to keep their luggage, a suitcase full of clothes and books and games. However, like other concentration camp inmates, they lived in barracks, male and female, and slept in three-tier bunk beds.

In January 1945 their mother fell ill and died. She was not yet 43. In March 1945 their father died of typhus, one month before the liberation of the camp.

As the Allies approached the Star Camp was evacuated. The Germans wanted to keep the “Exchange Jews” as hostages so all the inmates were marched to the nearby railway loading ramp. The Oppenheimers boarded the third of three trains. The other two trains departed; the first one was liberated by the American army within just a few days, the second one may have reached Theresienstadt, the perceived destination of all three trains.

The third train was the last to leave Belsen, on 10 April 1945, taking the remnants of the prisoners from the Star Camp: some 2,500 people out of the original 4,000; the others had died. Another 500 “Exchange Jews” would not survive the train journey and the Liberation.

On 15 April 1945, the British army liberated Belsen, but the Oppenheimers weren’t liberated till 23 April 1945, when the SS guards abandoned the train.

In 1945, Paul and Rudi joined Eve and their Uncle and Aunt in England. Paul became a professional engineer. In 1990, Paul was awarded an MBE by HM The Queen at Buckingham Palace. He now lives in Birmingham with his wife Corrine.

Hannah Pick

Hannah Pick, known as Hanneli or Lies Goslar, was a childhood friend of Anne Frank. Her family had escaped from Germany to the safety of the Netherlands in 1933. When the Frank family went into hiding in July 1942, the Goslars remained in Amsterdam until they were deported to Westerbork, and then on to Bergen-Belsen.

Hannah lost both of her parents because of the privations imposed by the Nazis. In Belsen she again made contact with Anne before being moved out of the camp in the last days of the war. She was liberated by the advancing Russian armies in 1945. Two years later she emigrated to Israel, where she now lives.

Susan Pollack

Susan Pollack was born in a small town near Budapest in 1930. In 1944 her father was rounded up by the authorities, and never seen again. Soon after, Susan and the rest of her family were deported to Auschwitz where she lost her mother immediately upon arrival. After two months, she was moved to an arms factory in Germany, and then marched to Belsen in the winter of 1944.

She remained there until the British liberated the camp in April 1945. After the war, she moved to Canada where she met her husband, also a survivor of the camps. They, and their three daughters, then emigrated to the United Kingdom.

Charles Salt

Charles was born in March 1917 in London. He worked as a tailor until February 1940, when he was called up to the Royal Fusiliers.

After training he was due to be sent to France, but the deployment was called off after the battle of Dunkirk.

Charles eventually went to France as part of the Military Police, when he was amongst the forces that landed at Normandy in June 1944. They travelled through France, Belgium, Holland and into Germany before hearing news of Belsen.

Charles was one of 17 members of his battalion sent to Belsen - they arrived 5 days after the first British troops. His job was to set up and run an information post for the newly liberated prisoners.

Charles said: "We didn't know what to expect. We'd heard reports of thousands of dead bodies but we didn't know what to believe."

"I went into the camp for just 15 minutes but when I came out I was covered with lice."
"Reading about the recent events in South East Asia really brought it all back. I've been saying it was just like Belsen all over again. One minute you're walking about and the next everything's changed. People have no food, no clothes, nothing."

Charles is married to Rene, who is a Belsen survivor. They met in Paris in 1946.

Gena Turgel MBE

Gena was born in Cracow, Poland in 1923 as the youngest of nine children. She was only 16 when the Nazis bombed her home town, Cracow, on 1st September 1939.

Gena's family had relatives in Chicago and they planned to leave for the States but they decided too late, because the Germans had already closed all exit and entry points, so they couldn't get out. Instead they had to move to Borek, a town 30 kilometres outside Cracow.

In autumn 1941 Gina had to move to the ghetto in Cracow. There she stayed with her mother and 4 siblings. The circumstances were very hard: it was unhygienic and cold. Food was sparse; space very limited and fear never far away. In May 1940 Gena had to witness her brother's death as he was shot by Nazis. Her second brother Janek fled from the ghetto and was never seen again. (His clothes were discovered in a concentration camp.)

On 1 March 1942 Gena and her family were sent to Plaszov camp. Gena discovered that her sister Miriam had been shot in 1941 after the Nazis caught her trying to bring food into the camp.

In December 1944 Gena was sent to Auschwitz. At that time the temperature was about -20°C. For about three weeks they had to walk all day long. Gena was sent into the gas chambers, but by some miracle, there was no gas coming out, only water. Nobody could believe that they had been saved.

In January 1945, just a few weeks after Gena had arrived, she left Auschwitz. Gina went with her mother, but they had to leave behind Hela, Gena's sister. They never saw her again.

They marched off, in an unknown direction. After several days they came to Leslau in Germany where they were forced onto trucks. They travelled under terrible conditions for the next 3 to 4 weeks. One night they found them selves in Buchenwald concentration camp.

From there they were forced onto cattle trucks for another few weeks to Bergen-Belsen where they arrived in February 1945. There she worked in a hospital for several months and tried to support her mother as best as she could.

On 15 April 1945 the British army liberated Bergen-Belsen. Among the liberators was Norman Turgel, who would eventually become Gena's husband just half a year later. It was seen as a sign of hope that these two people found together after so much human tragedy.

Gena lives in Edgware, Middlesex and is in close touch to her children and grandchildren.

Gena has written her testimony in a book called "I Light a Candle."

Major Williams

A Staff Captain aged 24, Major RW Williams was one of the first British soldiers to see the full horror of Belsen. He was one of a small advance party led by Brigadier HL Glyn-Hughes. On reporting that there were thousands to feed and thousands to bury, he was charged with organising the first supplies of food and water to Belsen. He remained in the concentration camp for two weeks, and then joined British forces in their continuing advance through Europe.

Survivors, Liberation and Rebuilding Lives

Why survivors matter now

The 60th anniversary of the liberation of the concentration camps presents one of the greatest opportunities to show our respect for the survivors of Nazi persecution and mass murder, and to listen to what they can tell us about the best and the worst of human behaviour.

At a time when individuals acquire instant celebrity for the most trivial of reasons, in a culture of complaint and compensation, the survivors offer a radically different set of values.

Despite what they went through, after the war the survivors never clamoured to be heard and did not demand attention. Few sought revenge against those who had tormented them and most only reluctantly claimed compensation, even for what was theirs by right. Instead, they quietly went about the business of rebuilding lives and reconstructing the societies in which they lived. They set an unrivalled example of dignity and fortitude.

Even today they step forward unwillingly to tell of their extraordinary experiences. They do not insist on any reward: to them it is a civic duty. Their recompense is the knowledge that society is learning from what they had to suffer, the knowledge that younger generations are listening to what they have to say and carrying their message forward.

Who are the survivors?

Survivors are a diverse group. Nazi racial persecution and genocide was directed against the Jews with a special, distinctive malevolence. Roma were also subjected to systematic persecution and mass murder. In Germany and in many of the countries it occupied, disabled people were murdered by the Nazis. Gay people in the Third Reich were victimised and they too were imprisoned in concentration camps.

The Jewish survivors of Nazi persecution and genocide are themselves a varied group. Because of the passage of time, those alive today were young when the Nazis struck at them. They include those ranging from infants to teenagers who were packed on trains and sent out of Germany on the eve of the war; young people who endured German occupation, ghettos, deportations, camps, slave labour and death marches. The older survivors had lives before they became refugees or prisoners; the youngest were mere babies and cannot 'remember' life before or even during those times.

They came from all over Europe and North Africa. They witnessed 'ethnic cleansing', massacres and death factories. Some were hidden with sympathetic non-Jews; others survived underground, either alone or with their families, in hiding or with false identities. In certain parts of Europe numbers of Jews escaped to the forests and hills where they lived and fought with partisans. Yet all are scarred.

What the survivors can tell us about racism and genocide

Survivors are not special just because they are survivors. Most will say that they did not escape from Germany or live through the ghettos or the camps because of something intrinsic to them. Most will readily admit that they survived thanks to sheer luck: better people perished, worse ones got away.

Survivors of Nazi persecution and mass murder are special because of *what* they survived and what they have to tell us about that horrific experience.

Those who escaped from persecution in Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia as young people or children before September 1939 witnessed the triumph of political intolerance, dictatorship, the massive abuse of human rights and systematic state-sponsored robbery. They lived under a system founded on warped racial-biological principles in which severely disabled people were considered 'unworthy of life' and anyone who did not conform to a straight, heterosexual stereotype was considered 'asocial' and an enemy of the people.

They testify to families shattered by racial persecution and parents giving up their children to the kindness of strangers in order to save them. They recall what it was like to arrive as refugees in 1930s Britain: a country divided between those whose humanitarian impulse led them to form refugee committees to help the persecuted and those who followed the xenophobic mass-circulation press and racist agitators like Sir Oswald Mosley who fomented hostility to the refugees. Most of the children who arrived on special trains in 1938-39 never saw their parents again because adults were denied admission by the British government for fear of causing a backlash against refugees seeking work as well as asylum.

These former refugees can inform us what it means to rebuild lives in a new country: to live through a war and then discover that you will never go home: that your family has been murdered: that you are orphans many times over: finally, that you have been irrevocably deprived of parents, culture, homeland.

Those who came to this country after 1945 bear witness to the very depths of inhumanity. In Poland, Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, the Baltic states, they saw people brutally evicted from their homes and their livelihoods destroyed in the name of a racist ideal; families ripped apart; men, women, children, babies slaughtered. They lived in squalid, walled ghettos and concentration camps where they endured starvation and disease in extremes of heat and cold. Despite illness and malnutrition, they were forced into slave labour.

Along with the Jews, tens of thousands of Roma were murdered, while millions of Russian prisoners of war and Poles were allowed to die of deliberate neglect or enslaved and worked to death.

In Czechoslovakia, Hungary, the Balkans and Nazi-occupied Western Europe Jews experienced the increase of persecution from discrimination and marking with the yellow star to round-ups, deportations and mass murder on an industrial scale in purpose-built gas chambers on the other side of the continent.

The survivors of the deportations are able to tell us how groups of people can be targeted by racism, segregated, isolated and uprooted. They discovered that few people are brave enough to resist and to help. Yet they experienced acts of kindness and courage, rescue and resistance. Some were actually saved by 'Righteous Gentiles' - non-Jews who risked their lives to help.

Survivors can recall the struggle to maintain human dignity in the overcrowded ghettos and in the camps. They witnessed the breakdown of civilization, but also solidarity in the face of the most awful brutality. Survivors in different places encountered the spectrum of responses to genocide, from desperate collaboration with the perpetrators to defiance and armed rebellion.

Above all they bear witness to the moment of liberation, the moment at which a totalitarian, genocidal regime was brought down by Allied troops: the Red Army at Auschwitz, the British at Belsen, the Americans at Dachau, as well as Allied personnel from many other nations who opened the gates of hundreds of murderous, ghastly camps.

What survivors can tell us about the aftermath of genocide

Few comforting stories emerged from the Nazi dark ages. One of the most important things we can learn from the survivors of Nazi persecution and mass murder is that for people who emerge from war and genocide, suffering and grief do not end instantly with the declaration of peace. The survivors of the Nazi racial persecution and genocide faced a particularly difficult time.

For those in the camps, liberation was a muted experience. They were alive, but they had lost everything. Thousands died of malnutrition and disease even after Allied troops arrived.

The sights that greeted Allied servicemen and women marked them forever. They brought immediate aid to the survivors in terrible conditions and at great risk to themselves. The troops and relief workers should be honoured for that bravery and skill.

But after the initial rescue, survivors often faced incomprehension and even hostility. Those who limped back to their own countries frequently discovered that their homes were occupied by other people and that their belongings were gone. They were treated with fear and resentment.

The post-war experience of Jews was rooted in the ambiguous wartime attitude towards the Nazi policies that singled out the Jewish people and the reluctance to accept that they were special targets of Nazi race hate. Unlike the citizens of occupied countries, the Jewish survivors had no government to represent them or homeland to take them back. Since only a few had been able to take up arms against the Nazis, they were not treated as heroes, like resistance fighters or soldiers who came home.

About 50,000 Jewish camp survivors gathered in the British and American zones of occupation in Germany, refusing to return to places that were no more than a graveyard. Outbreaks of violent anti-Semitism in Poland led to over a hundred thousand Polish

Jewish survivors joining them. But no country in the world was willing to take substantial numbers of Jewish 'Displaced Persons', 'DPs', as the survivors became known.

The British government refused to allow an influx of Jewish refugees and only a few thousand came to Britain under a scheme for the 'distressed relatives' of Jews already in the UK. The government permitted the Jewish community to rescue 1,000 Jewish children but ruled out any old enough to work, even though tens of thousands of non-Jewish DPs, including Poles, Balts, Ukrainians and ethnic Germans, were recruited for labour in Britain.

Today we live in a 'therapeutic culture', but few survivors received anything more than essential medical treatment. About 750 boys and girls who were brought to Britain by the British Jewish community were given excellent care and sustained attention - but they were the exception. Neither the survivors nor the liberating troops, many of whom were traumatised by what they had seen, received the kind of support that we would deem essential to their psychological well-being.

In the post-war trials of war criminals the testimony of survivors was almost totally ignored and they were at the bottom of the list of those to get restitution. It took decades before they obtained justice. In Germany Roma and gays had no chance of obtaining redress: the laws under which they had been persecuted remained in force for many years. Their experiences, like the Nazi treatment of Germans of African descent, were hardly mentioned.

And yet most of the former Jewish refugees and the camp survivors who reached Britain between 1938 and 1945 came through and avoided the canker of bitterness. Some completed interrupted educations while others began their schooling in a new tongue. They mastered trades and professions, and embarked on productive working lives. They married and raised families. Many maintained their religious affiliations and cherished memories of a culture that was now in ruins. Above all, they avoided the temptation to hate or to teach their children to hate.

Over time they formed associations and set up memorials to murdered loved ones and lost communities. They fostered commemorations, teaching and research into the origins of the Nazi nightmare and the fate of those it engulfed. As well as being productive, law-abiding citizens, they tried to turn their experiences to the general good by warning against what happens when democracy, toleration and decency collapse.

They did all this not because of what society expected of them, but despite a pervasive lack of compassion and curiosity. From the 1940s to the 1970s, there was little interest in what they had endured: the Nazi genocide was not taught about in our schools and stories connected with it rarely cropped up in the media. It is only in the last few years that we have recognised the importance of the survivors and given them the acknowledgement they deserve.

What can we achieve on Holocaust Memorial Day 2005?

Survivors still bear the scars of their experiences - and nothing can heal their loss. But we can to some extent make up for the years in which they were ignored by showing our respect for their strength and resilience.

Holocaust Memorial Day 2005 should not be an empty celebration of 'the human spirit' or the 'triumph over adversity'. Rather, Holocaust Memorial Day should be a time to hear the survivors recall their experiences, reflect on how our society treated them, and listen to what they can tell us that applies equally well to the world today. It should be a spur to action against all manifestations of racism, intolerance, dehumanisation of 'the Other' and incipient genocide.

Survivors should not just be used for a convenient 'sound bite' or serve as the peg on which to hang clichés about crimes committed by other people, long ago and far away.

Our task is to make sure that as many people as possible, especially the young, listen to these survivors from a terrible past that finds echoes in our society - and pledge to them that we will do our utmost to prevent anything like that which they endured ever happening again in Britain or elsewhere in the world.

If we had heeded them earlier, perhaps the catastrophes in Bosnia, Rwanda and Kosovo would not have occurred. Perhaps we would have acted sooner to get relief to the survivors of those atrocities, provided asylum for the victims with greater speed and generosity, and done more to help them recover. Sadly, the stories told by the survivors of Nazi terror have resonated in the horrific stories that emerged from Srebrenica and Kigali.

Now, thanks to the huge media coverage of the anniversaries marking the last year of the war, the spotlight will be on the wartime generation, the former refugees from Nazi persecution and the survivors of genocide. We must seize this opportunity to pay our respect to them, to hear their voices and learn from what they have to say.

Professor David Cesarani, Royal Holloway, University of London
July 2004

Numbers murdered in the Holocaust

Who was murdered	Number murdered
Jews	6,000,000
Roma & Sinti	200,000 - 800,000
Disabled People	200,000 - 300,000
Homosexuals	10,000 - 25,000
Jehovah's Witnesses	2,000
Non-Jewish Poles	2.5 - 3,500,000
Other Slavic civilians	3.5 - 6,000,000
Soviet POWs	2.5 - 4,000,000
Political dissidents	1 - 1,500,000

*Source is <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holocaust>

Holocaust Time Line

1933

Jan 30, 1933 - Adolf Hitler is appointed Chancellor of Germany, a nation with a Jewish population of 566,000.

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 Ravensbrück for women

April 26, 1933 - The Gestapo is born (secret state police), created by Hermann Göring in the German state of Prussia.

In July - Nazis pass law allowing for forced sterilization of those found by a Hereditary Health Court to have genetic defects.

Oct 4, 1933 - Jews are prohibited from being newspaper editors.

1935

June 26, 1935 - Nazis pass law allowing forced abortions on women to prevent them from passing on hereditary diseases.

Sept 15, 1935 - Nuremberg Race Laws against Jews decreed.

1936

Feb 10, 1936 - The German Gestapo is placed above the law.

In March - SS Deathshead division is established to guard concentration camps.

In Aug - Nazis set up an Office for Combating Homosexuality and Abortions (by healthy women).

1938

March 12/13, 1938 - Nazi troops enter Austria, which has a population of 200,000 Jews, mainly living in Vienna.

In July - At Evian, France, the U.S. convenes a League of Nations conference with delegates from 32 countries to consider helping Jews fleeing Hitler, but results in inaction as no country will accept them.

Oct 15, 1938 - Nazi troops occupy the Sudetenland.

Nov 15, 1938 - Jewish pupils are expelled from all non-Jewish German schools.

Dec 14, 1938 - Hermann Göring takes charge of resolving the "Jewish Question."

1939

March 15/16 - Nazi troops seize Czechoslovakia (Jewish pop. 350,000).

Sept 1, 1939 - Nazis invade Poland (Jewish pop. 3.35 million, the largest in Europe). Beginning of SS activity in Poland.

Sept 3, 1939 - England and France declare war on Germany.

Sept 21, 1939 - Heydrich issues instructions to SS Einsatzgruppen (special action squads) in Poland regarding treatment of Jews, stating they are to be gathered into ghettos near railroads for the future "final goals." He also orders a census and the establishment of Jewish administrative councils within the ghettos to implement Nazi policies and decrees.

Sept 29, 1939 - Nazis and Soviets divide up Poland. Over two million Jews reside in Nazi controlled areas, leaving 1.3 million in the Soviet area.

Nov 23, 1939 - Yellow stars required to be worn by Polish Jews over age 10.

1940

Jan 25, 1940 - Nazis choose the town of Oswiecim (Auschwitz) in Poland near Krakow as site of new concentration camp.

Feb 12, 1940 - First deportation of German Jews into occupied Poland.

April 9, 1940 - Nazis invade Denmark (Jewish pop. 8,000) and Norway (Jewish pop. 2,000).

April 30, 1940 - The Lodz Ghetto in occupied Poland is sealed off from the outside world with 230,000 Jews locked inside.

May 1, 1940 - Rudolf Höss is chosen to be Kommandant of Auschwitz.

May 10, 1940 - Nazis invade France (Jewish pop. 350,000), Belgium (Jewish pop. 65,000), Holland (Jewish pop. 140,000), and Luxembourg (Jewish pop. 3,500).

Oct 7, 1940 - Nazis invade Romania (Jewish pop. 34,000).

In Nov - Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia become Nazi Allies.

In Nov - The Krakow Ghetto is sealed off containing 70,000 Jews.

Nov 15, 1940 - The Warsaw Ghetto, containing over 400,000 Jews, is sealed off.

1941

In 1941 - Hans Frank, Gauleiter of Poland, states, "I ask nothing of the Jews except that they should disappear."

March 1, 1941 - Himmler makes his first visit to Auschwitz, during which he orders Kommandant Höss to begin massive expansion, including a new compound to be built at nearby Birkenau that can hold 100,000 prisoners.

March 2, 1941 - Nazis occupy Bulgaria (Jewish pop. 50,000).

April 6, 1941 - Nazis invade Yugoslavia (Jewish pop. 75,000) and Greece (Jewish pop. 77,000).

June 22, 1941 - Nazis invade the Soviet Union (Jewish pop. 3 million).

Summer - Himmler summons Auschwitz Kommandant Höss to Berlin and tells him, "The Führer has ordered the Final Solution of the Jewish question. We, the SS, have to carry out this order...I have therefore chosen Auschwitz for this purpose."

In July - As the German Army advances, SS Einsatzgruppen follow along and conduct mass murder of Jews in seized lands.

July 21, 1941 - In occupied Poland near Lublin, Majdanek concentration camp becomes operational.

July 31, 1941 - Göring instructs Heydrich to prepare for Final Solution.

Sept 3, 1941 - The first test use of Zyklon-B gas at Auschwitz.

Sept 6, 1941 - The Vilna Ghetto is established containing 40,000 Jews.

Sept 29/30 - SS Einsatzgruppen murder 33,771 Jews at Babi Yar near Kiev.

Nov 24, 1941 - Theresienstadt Ghetto is established near Prague, Czechoslovakia. The Nazis will use it as a model ghetto for propaganda purposes.

Dec 8, 1941 - In occupied Poland, near Lodz, Chelmno extermination camp becomes operational. Jews taken there are placed in mobile gas vans and driven to a burial place while carbon monoxide from the engine exhaust is fed into the sealed rear compartment, killing them. The first gassing victims include 5,000 Gypsies who had been deported from the Reich to Lodz.

1942

In Jan - Mass killings of Jews using Zyklon-B begin at Auschwitz-Birkenau in Bunker I (the red farmhouse) in Birkenau with the bodies being buried in mass graves in a nearby meadow.

Jan 20, 1942 - Wannsee Conference to coordinate the "Final Solution."

(Final Solution decided at the infamous Wannsee Conference in 1942 when it was ordered that all Jews in Europe be killed in extermination camps. With due speed, German industrialists were required to design and produce ovens and gas chambers that would enable the mass murders to be carried out quickly and cleanly without involving German personnel too much.

In March - In occupied Poland, Belzec extermination camp becomes operational. The camp is fitted with permanent gas chambers using carbon monoxide piped in from engines placed outside the chamber, but will later substitute Zyklon-B.

March 24, 1942 - The start of deportation of Slovak Jews to Auschwitz.

March 27, 1942 - The start of deportation of French Jews to Auschwitz.

March 30, 1942 - First trainloads of Jews from Paris arrive at Auschwitz.

In April - First transports of Jews arrive at Majdanek.

In May - In occupied Poland, Sobibor extermination camp becomes operational. The camp is fitted with three gas chambers using carbon monoxide piped in from engines, but will later substitute Zyklon-B.

June 5, 1942 - SS report 97,000 persons have been "processed" in mobile gas vans.

June 30, 1942 - At Auschwitz, a second gas chamber, Bunker II (the white farmhouse), is made operational at Birkenau due to the number of Jews arriving.

June 30 and July 2 - The New York Times reports via the London Daily Telegraph that over 1,000,000 Jews have already been killed by Nazis.

July 7, 1942 - Himmler grants permission for sterilization experiments at Auschwitz.

July 14, 1942 - Beginning of deportation of Dutch Jews to Auschwitz.

July 16/17 - 12,887 Jews of Paris are rounded up and sent to Drancy Internment Camp located outside the city. A total of approximately 74,000 Jews, including 11,000 children, will eventually be transported from Drancy to Auschwitz, Majdanek and Sobibor.

July 17/18 - Himmler visits Auschwitz-Birkenau for two days, inspecting all ongoing construction and expansion, then observes the extermination process from start to finish as two trainloads of Jews arrive from Holland. Kommandant Höss is then promoted. Construction includes four large gas chamber/crematories.

July 19, 1942 - Himmler orders Operation Reinhard, mass deportations of Jews in Poland to extermination camps.

July 22, 1942 - Beginning of deportations from the Warsaw Ghetto to the new extermination camp, Treblinka. Also, beginning of the deportation of Belgian Jews to Auschwitz.

July 23, 1942 - Treblinka extermination camp opened in occupied Poland, east of Warsaw. The camp is fitted with two buildings containing 10 gas chambers, each holding

200 persons. Carbon monoxide gas is piped in from engines placed outside the chamber, but Zyklon-B will later be substituted. Bodies are burned in open pits.

In Aug - The start of deportations of Croatian Jews to Auschwitz.

Sept 9, 1942 - Open pit burning of bodies begins at Auschwitz in place of burial. The decision is made to dig up and burn those already buried, 107,000 corpses, to prevent fouling of ground water.

Oct 5, 1942 - Himmler orders all Jews in concentration camps in Germany to be sent to Auschwitz and Majdanek.

Oct 22, 1942 - SS put down a revolt at Sachsenhausen by a group of Jews about to be sent to Auschwitz.

Oct 25, 1942 - Deportations of Jews from Norway to Auschwitz begin.

Dec 10, 1942 - The first transport of Jews from Germany arrives at Auschwitz.

In Dec - Exterminations at Belzec cease after an estimated 600,000 Jews have been murdered. The camp is then dismantled, ploughed over and planted.

Dec 28, 1942 - Sterilization experiments on women at Birkenau begin.

1943

In 1943 - The number of Jews killed by SS Einsatzgruppen passes one million. Nazis then use special units of slave labourers to dig up and burn bodies to remove all traces.

Jan 29, 1943 - Nazis order all Gypsies arrested and sent to extermination camps.

March 22, 1943 - Newly built gas chamber/crematory IV opens at Auschwitz.

March 31, 1943 - Newly built gas chamber/crematory II opens at Auschwitz.

April 4, 1943 - Newly built gas chamber/crematory V opens at Auschwitz.

April 9, 1943 - Exterminations at Chelmno cease. The camp will be reactivated in the spring of 1944 to liquidate ghettos. In all, Chelmno will total 300,000 deaths.

May 19, 1943 - Nazis declare Berlin to be Judenfrei (cleansed of Jews).

June 11, 1943 - Himmler orders liquidation of all Jewish ghettos in occupied Poland.

June 25, 1943 - Newly built gas chamber/crematory III opens at Auschwitz. With its completion, the four new crematories at Auschwitz have a daily capacity of 4,756 bodies.

In Aug - Exterminations cease at Treblinka, after an estimated 870,000 deaths.

Oct 4 - Himmler talks openly about the Final Solution at Posen.

Oct 14, 1943 - Massive escape from Sobibor as Jews and Soviet POWs break out, with 300 making it safely into nearby woods. Of those 300, fifty will survive. Exterminations then cease at Sobibor, after over 250,000 deaths. All traces of the death camp are then removed and trees are planted.

Oct 16, 1943 - Jews in Rome rounded up, with over 1,000 sent to Auschwitz.

Nov 11, 1943 - Auschwitz Kommandant Höss is promoted to chief inspector of concentration camps. The new Kommandant, Liebehenschel, then divides up the vast Auschwitz complex of over 30 sub-camps into three main sections.

Dec 2, 1943 - The first transport of Jews from Vienna arrives at Auschwitz.

Dec 16, 1943 - The chief surgeon at Auschwitz reports that 106 castration operations have been performed.

1944

April 7, 1944 - Two Jewish inmates escape from Auschwitz-Birkenau and make it safely to Czechoslovakia. One of them, Rudolf Vrba, submits a report to the Papal Nuncio in Slovakia which is forwarded to the Vatican, received there in mid June.

April 14, 1944 - First transports of Jews from Athens to Auschwitz, totalling 5,200 persons.

May 8, 1944 - Rudolf Höss returns to Auschwitz, ordered by Himmler to oversee the extermination of Hungarian Jews.

May 16, 1944 - Jews from Hungary arrive at Auschwitz. Eichmann arrives to personally oversee and speed up the extermination process. By May 24, an estimated 100,000 have been gassed. Between May 16 and May 31, the SS report collecting 88 pounds of gold and white metal from the teeth of those gassed. By the end of June, 381,661 persons - half of the Jews in Hungary - arrive at Auschwitz.

In June - A Red Cross delegation visits Theresienstadt after the Nazis have carefully prepared the camp and the Jewish inmates, resulting in a favourable report.

Summer - Auschwitz-Birkenau records its highest-ever daily number of persons gassed and burned at just over 9,000. Six huge pits are used to burn bodies, as the number exceeds the capacity of the crematories.

July 24, 1944 - Soviet troops liberate first concentration camp at Majdanek where over 360,000 had been murdered.

Oct 7, 1944 - A revolt by Sonderkommando (Jewish slave labourers) at Auschwitz-Birkenau results in complete destruction of Crematory IV.

Oct 28, 1944 - The last transport of Jews to be gassed, 2,000 from Theresienstadt, arrives at Auschwitz.

Oct 30, 1944 - Last use of gas chambers at Auschwitz.

Nov 25, 1944 - Himmler orders the destruction of the crematoria at Auschwitz.

1945

In 1945 - As the Allies advance, the Nazis conduct death marches of concentration camp inmates away from outlying areas.

Jan 18, 1945 - Nazis evacuate 66,000 from Auschwitz.

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.

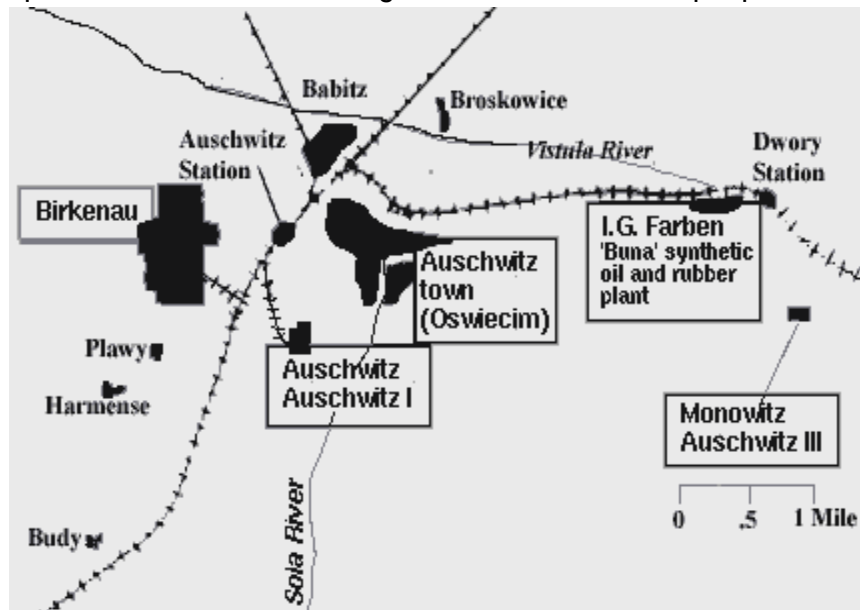
Classification in concentration camps

- **Yellow:** Jews -- two overlaid to form a Star of David, with the word "Jude" (Jew) inscribed; *mischlings*, i.e., those who were deemed to be only part Jewish, often wore a single yellow triangle
- **Red:** Political dissidents, including Communists
- **Green:** Common criminals. Criminals of Aryan descent were frequently given special privileges at the camps, and power over other prisoners.
- **Purple:** Religious fundamentalists (defined as persons belonging to Christian sects whose teachings forbid fighting in wars), most notably Jehovah's Witnesses
- **Blue:** Immigrants.
- **Brown:** Roma and Sinti (Gypsies)
- **Black:** Lesbians and "anti-socials" (alcoholics and the "work-shy")
- **Pink:** Gay men

Time line for Auschwitz

1941-1942

Six death or extermination camps were constructed in Poland. These were: Auschwitz-Birkenau; Treblinka; Belzec; Sobibór; Lublin and Chelmno. The primary purpose of these camps was the methodical killing of millions of innocent people.



Spring 1940 - First prisoners from Dachau arrive in Auschwitz and start building up Auschwitz concentration camp. Rudolf Höss becomes first camp commander.

June 4, 1940 - Arrival of the first prisoners' transport (728 Poles)

March 1, 1941 - Reichsführer -SS Heinrich Himmler visits Auschwitz and gives order to commander Höss to enlarge the camp. Auschwitz I should seize 30,000 prisoners, Auschwitz II (Birkenau) 100,000. August 1941 Heinrich Himmler orders the mass extermination of Jews in Auschwitz.

September 1941 - First gassing with Zyklon-B gas in Auschwitz: Soviet POW'S and 298 sick inmates were killed.

October 8, 1941 - Birkenau camp started to be erected.

January 20, 1942 - At the "Wannseekonferenz" in Berlin, the organization of mass extermination was decided.

January 1942 - Birkenau is set to be the place of mass murder; in the beginning a reconstructed farmhouse was used by the SS to gas Jews.

March 22 to June 25, 1943 - Four new crematories with gas chambers were put into operation.

November 20, 1943 - Reconstruction of Auschwitz. Auschwitz I - main camp: camp for men
Auschwitz II - Birkenau: women's and men's camp, mass extermination in the gas

chambers; Auschwitz III - sub camps at the industrial and agricultural plants such like the Buna- factory in Monowitz.

May 2- Sep.21, 1944 - Extermination of Hungarian Jews: between May 2 and July 9 1944, 437,402 Jews from Hungary were deported to Auschwitz August 1944 155,000 people are imprisoned. The SS starts liquidating the camps.

October 10, 1944 - Uprising of the Sonderkommando: Jewish inmates burn crematorium IV.

November 1944 - The gassings in Auschwitz are being suspended. Heinrich Himmler gives order to disassemble the killing institutions and to destroy the gas chambers and crematories.

January 17, 1945 - the evacuation of Auschwitz and all sub camps starts. All prisoners who seem to be able to move are sent on the "Death March" towards the West. At the last roll- call, 66,020 prisoners are counted in the KZ and all sub camps.

January 27, 1945 - Liberation of Auschwitz by Soviet troops. They find some 5,000 prisoners left behind but unable to move.

Stakeholder organisations

There are a number of organisations that are involved with promoting Holocaust Memorial Day and the issues associated with it.

Organisations focusing on Holocaust Remembrance and Education

45 Aid Society Holocaust Survivors

“If Holocaust survivors have managed to overcome hatred, thoughts of revenge and extreme prejudice, others harbouring those feelings will be able to see how dangerous they are and will try to subdue them. This will work towards a more harmonious society.”
Ben Helfgott

Established in 1963, the Society consists mainly of Survivors from concentration camps who came to England in 1945/6 and others who have immigrated subsequently. It maintains close links with members who have emigrated to the USA, Canada, Israel and other countries. The Society is active in the community, helps members as well as others in need and other charitable causes, and is the major reservoir of survivors who give testimony of their experiences to schools and the public at large.

For further information please contact:

Flat 4, Broadlands, Hillside Road, Radlett, Hertfordshire, WD7 7BX

Tel: 01923 850816

Fax: 0208 4221512

email: 45aidsociety@onetel.com

website: www.45aidsociety.org

Anne Frank Educational Trust UK

Tours the major exhibition 'Anne Frank: A History for Today' which explains the rise of Nazism, the history of Anne Frank and her family and explores racism in Britain today. Stages national Anne Frank Day on 12 June. Distributes teachers' resources on Anne Frank and is the sole UK distributor of educational materials from the Anne Frank House, Amsterdam.

For further information please contact:

The Anne Frank Trust UK, Star House, 104/108 Grafton Road, Kentish Town, London NW5 4BA

Tel: 020 7284 5858

Fax: 020 7428 2601

Email: info@annefrank.org.uk

www.annefrank.org.uk

Beth Shalom Holocaust Centre

An educational, resource and memorial centre with a permanent exhibit and memorial gardens. Offers services and resources relating to Holocaust remembrance, citizenship education and genocide prevention. Mobile educational displays are available to schools. The Centre has published survivor testimonies, poster series and a range of short films.

For further information please contact:

The Holocaust Centre, Laxton, Newark, Notts, NG22 0PA

Tel: 01623 836627

Fax: 01623 836647

Email: office@bethshalom.com

Website: www.holocaustcentre.net

David Cesarani

David Cesarani is Research Professor in History at Royal Holloway, University of London, and the leading British expert on Jewish history.

David has been actively involved in the prosecution of war criminals, and was a consultant between 1987 and 1991 to the All-Party Parliamentary War Crimes Group, and Principal Researcher of its 'Report on the Entry of Nazi War Criminals and Collaborators in the UK 1949 - 1950'. His research in this direction culminated in the important and acclaimed book, published in 1992, *Justice Delayed: How Britain became a refuge for Nazi war criminals*, which was updated and republished in 2000. His work on Nazi War Crimes led him to write and edit books on many aspects of the Holocaust.

David Cesarani was a member of the British delegation to the International Task Force for Intergovernmental Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research and is currently an advisor to the Home Office on Holocaust Memorial Day as well as other UK and overseas NGOs. He served on the advisory board of the Imperial War Museum's permanent Holocaust exhibition and has made a number of radio documentaries for the BBC and acted as consultant for several historical programmes on television.

Commission for Racial Equality

Publicly funded, non-governmental body set up under the Race Relations Act 1976 to tackle racial discrimination and promote racial equality.

For further information please contact:

St Dunstan's House, 201-211 Borough High Street, London SE1 1GZ

Tel: 020 7939 0000

Fax: 020 7939 0001

Email: info@cre.gov.uk

Website: www.cre.gov.uk

The Council of Christians and Jews

“The work of building and ensuring good relations within communities needs to be done afresh in each generation. CCJ is grateful for the opportunity afforded by Holocaust Memorial Day to revisit the vital issues in the light of history, to explore both the darkness and the courage of humanity and to pledge to work together for reconciliation and understanding.” Jane Clements

A national charity founded in 1942 at the height of the Holocaust by the Chief Rabbi and the Archbishop of Canterbury, it is concerned to promote understanding and reconciliation, especially in terms of Jewish-Christian relations, but more broadly throughout UK society. Involved in reflecting on social and moral issues raised during the Holocaust period. Provides information, advice, resources and speakers on a range of related matters, especially for those involved in education and community issues.

For further information please contact:

5th Floor, Camelford House, 89 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TP

Tel: 020 7820 0090

Fax: 020 7820 0504

e-mail: cjrelations@ccj.org.uk

website: www.ccj.org.uk

Disability Rights Commission

Independent body set up by the British Government to help secure civil rights for disabled people. Statutory duties include: to work to eliminate discrimination against disabled people and to promote equal opportunities for disabled people.

For further information please contact:

DRC Helpline, Freepost, MID 02164, Stratford Upon Avon, CV37 9BR

Tel: 08457 622 633

Fax: 08457 778 878

Text Phone: 08457 622 644

Email: enquiry@drc-gb.org

Website: www.drc-gb.org

Gypsy Council for Education, Culture, Welfare and Civil Rights

Supports and liaises with Gypsy families in the UK. Liases and mediates with central and local government bodies, police and legal advisers, education departments and schools, and politicians and political parties for the rights of Gypsy people.

For further information please contact:

European and UK Central Office, 8 Hall Road, Aveley, Romford, Essex, RM15 4HD

Tel/ Fax: 01708 868986

Email: thegypscouncil@btinternet.com

Website: www.thegypscouncil.org

Holocaust Educational Trust

Provides teacher training, an outreach programme for schools, teaching aids and resource materials. Lessons from Auschwitz courses for teachers and post-16 students incorporate a visit to the former Nazi camp and pre- and post-visit seminars. Partner in the 'Lessons of the Holocaust' teaching pack. Publishes new academic research on Holocaust-related issues for schools and universities.

For further information please contact:

BCM Box 7892, London, WC1N 3XX
Tel: 020 7222 6822
Fax: 020 7233 0161
Email: info@het.org.uk
Website: www.het.org.uk; www.thinkequal.com

The Holocaust Survivors' Centre

Offers a six-day-a-week social programme for those who were in Europe during WW2 and those who came as refugees after *Kristallnacht*. Shalvata, next door, offers opportunities for the emotional repercussions of the trauma to be addressed, as well as practical help. Advice on claims, and recording of testimonies is available. Shalvata works with a group of Bosnian refugees, and provides a training and consultation service for organisations working with the effects of war trauma. Services are funded by Jewish Care with financial contribution from WJR.

For further information please contact:

Tel: HSC 0208 202 9844; Shalvata 0208 203 9033
Fax: HSC 0208 202 2404; Shalvata 0208 201 5534
Email: HSC hsc@jcare.org; Shalvata shalvata@jcare.org

Imperial War Museum (The Holocaust Exhibition and Crimes against Humanity)

"The Imperial War Museum's Holocaust Exhibition receives record attendances over the Holocaust Memorial Day weekend. The Museum is pleased to be able to support Holocaust Memorial Day, through it's exhibition, and supporting education programme."
Steve Slack

Europe's largest museum exhibition on the Holocaust, opened in June 2000, tells the story of the Holocaust using original artefacts, documents, photographs, film and sound. This is accompanied by 'Crimes against Humanity', a multi-media exhibition examining the nature of ethnic violence and genocide in the twentieth century and today. Entry free.

Contact: sslack@iwm.org.uk

Free educational service for school groups. Teachers' and students' resources and courses available. Contact: lr-edu@iwm.org.uk

For further information please contact:

Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London, SE1 6HZ
Tel: 020 7416 5260
Fax: 020 7416 5278

Website: www.iwm.org.uk

Institute of Contemporary History and Wiener Library

"The Wiener Library is the nation's largest and finest resource for learning about the Holocaust and the Nazi era that gave rise to it. As such, supporting and contributing to Holocaust Memorial Day is integral to our mission. The theme for the 2005 HMD is at the core of what the national commemoration is about - the assault on the lives and dignity of innocent human beings in the name of the state and the triumph of the human spirit embodied in those who endured and survived the assault and went on to rebuild their lives and help make ours a better world" Ben Barkow

Oldest Holocaust and Nazi-era archive and library in the world, housing one of the biggest international collections with over 60,000 books and pamphlets, hundreds of document collections, 3,000 periodical runs, 10,000 photographs and over two million press cuttings. Education programme includes lectures, seminars, conferences and tours.

For further details please contact:
4 Devonshire Street, London W1W 5BH
Tel: 0207 636 7247
Fax: 0207 436 6428
Email: info@wienerlibrary.co.uk
Website: www.wienerlibrary.co.uk

Department for Education and Skills

The Department for Education and Skills was established with the purpose of creating opportunity, releasing potential and achieving excellence for all. Holocaust Education is covered in the National Curriculum and DfES are responsible for the production of the HMD education materials.

For further details please contact:
Tel: 0870 000 2288

Pink Triangle Coalition

An international coalition founded in 1997 to coordinate affairs relating to Nazi persecution of gay men and lesbians. The network brings together gay and lesbian representative bodies, human rights agencies, academics, educators and others working in related fields to promote awareness, educate, and campaign for restitution and justice around the world.

For further information in the UK about LGBT victims please contact:
Jack Gilbert, Chair, The Islington LGBT
Forum Email: pinktriangle@lgbtislington.org
Website: www.lgbtislington.org/pinktriangle (from September)

The Royal British Legion

The Royal British Legion is the UK's leading charity providing financial, social and emotional support to millions who have served and are currently serving in the Armed Forces, and their dependants. Currently, nearly 13 million people are eligible for our support and we receive around 300,000 calls for help every year.

For further information: call Legion line on 08457 725 725

E-mail: info@britishlegion.org.uk

Website: www.britishlegion.org

Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation

Since its establishment in 1994, the Shoah Foundation has collected and preserved an archive of more than 50,000 videotaped testimonies of survivors and other witnesses of the Holocaust. Today the Foundation is focused on cataloguing and indexing the testimonies and making them accessible as an educational resource around the world. For further information please contact:

PO Box 3168, Los Angeles, CA 90078-3168 USA

Tel: 001 818 777 7802

Fax: 001 818 777 4373

Email: webmaster@vhf.org

Website: www.vhf.org

Other organisations supporting HMD

Board of Deputies for British Jews

Protects and supports the interests, religious rights and customs of Jews in the UK. Education department monitors trends in education and ensures sensitivity to Jewish needs within the national education system.

For further information please contact:

6 Bloomsbury Square, London, WC1A 2LP

Tel: 020 7543 5400

Fax: 020 7543 0010

Email: info@bod.org.uk

Website: www.bod.org.uk

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

The purpose of the FCO is to work for UK interests in a safe, just and prosperous world. We do this with some 16,000 staff, based in the UK and our overseas network of over 200 diplomatic offices. To deliver the Government's international priorities and better public services, the FCO also needs to work closely with people and organisations in the UK.

The FCO is the government dept with lead responsibility for the International Task Force for Intergovernmental Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research.

For further details please contact:
Tel: 020 7008 1500

The Jewish Council for Racial Equality (JCORE)

Works on three fronts: anti-racist education, Black/Jewish dialogue and asylum and refugee issues. The revised edition of the booklet, "Unaccompanied Refugee Children: Have the lessons been learnt?", and brand new JCORE Postcards - designed to raise issues on the themes of equality, justice, prejudice and generosity (years 5, 6, & 7) - are now available. Our "Connections" Exhibition, drawing parallels between the histories of migration to the UK of Black/Asian and Jewish families is launched in London in October 2004 and will be at the Jewish Museum, Sternberg Centre, Finchley, London from November to January 2005 and the Ragged School Museum in London's East End from February to August 2005.

For further information please contact:
33 Seymour Place, London, W1N 5AU
Tel: 020 8455 0896
Fax: 020 7458 4700
Email: j.core@btconnect.com
Website: www.jcore.org.uk

Liberal Judaism

A national, religious organisation that places great importance on promoting the prophetic tradition of social action and justice. Our 35 synagogues and communities provide religious, educational, cultural and social events at a local level, for members and the wider community.

For further information please contact:
The Montagu Centre, 21 Maple Street, London, W1T 4BE
Tel: 020 7580 1663
Fax: 020 7631 9838
Email: montagu@liberaljudaism.org
Website: www.liberaljudaism.org

Stonewall

Established in London in 1989 by women and men working towards the advancement of the civil, political, economic and social rights of lesbians, gay men and bisexuals.

46 Grosvenor Gardens, London, SW1W 0EB
Tel: 020 7881 9440
Fax: 020 7881 9444
Email: info@stonewall.org.uk
Website: www.stonewall.org.uk