

SOME WERE NEIGHBORS

COLLABORATION & COMPLICITY IN THE HOLOCAUST

PHOTO ACTIVITY: DECONSTRUCTING THE FAMILIAR

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German customs officials supervise the packing of a moving van containing the belongings of a Jewish family preparing to emigrate. Part of the officials' job was to prevent the smuggling of valuables that law prohibited Jews from taking with them. Bielefeld, Germany, 1936. *Stadtarchiv Bielefeld*

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A member of the Lithuanian auxiliary police auctions off property of Jews who were recently executed in the nearby Rase Forest. Lithuania, July–August 1941.
US Holocaust Memorial Museum, courtesy of Saulius Berzinis

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A police official distributes Jewish badges after German occupation orders require Jews residing in the northern occupied zone of France to wear badges. Paris, 1942.
Nationaal Archief/Spaarnestad Photo/Cl. Aveline

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SS officers and female assistants at an SS resort 18 miles from Auschwitz, July 1944. Many of those depicted were involved in processing the Jewish deportees who arrived at Auschwitz from Hungary in summer 1944. *US Holocaust Memorial Museum*

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An anti-Jewish banner hangs over a busy, commercial street in Treptow, Germany. The banner reads: "The Jews are our misfortune." *Stadtarchiv Nürnberg, Stürmer Archiv, E39 Nr.2261/4*

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Jews from an area of Greece recently occupied by Bulgaria, an ally of Nazi Germany, register with Bulgarian officials for deportation to the Treblinka killing center. Lom, Bulgaria, March 1943. *Photographic Archive of the Jewish Museum of Greece*

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Uniformed Gestapo officials load Jews onto trucks for deportation in full view of many onlookers. Kerpen, Germany, 1942. *Stadtarchiv Kerpen*

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PHOTO ACTIVITY: DECONSTRUCTING THE FAMILIAR

Fill in the chart as each group reports on what they learned about their photograph.

PHOTOGRAPH	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
SETTING Where was the photo taken?							
PEOPLE AND ACTIONS (NON-VICTIMS) Who is in the photo and what are they doing?							
POSSIBLE MOTIVATIONS AND PRESSURES (NON-VICTIMS) What might explain why the people are doing what they are doing?							

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Divide into groups of two or three. Each group should have one photograph. Examine the photograph and answer the questions in Section I.

SECTION I

How many people are in the photograph? How many men and women? Are they young or old?

Describe and differentiate the people by the clothing worn.

On the most general level, what is the setting or location? Where was the photograph taken (e.g., outside, on the street, inside, etc.)?

Describe, if possible, the relationship between the individuals, or groups of individuals, in the photograph.

If objects are a central focus of the photograph, list them and describe the relationship between the objects and the individuals.

Based on your observations, what do you think is happening in the photograph? Write a caption for the photograph.

When you have completed Section I, wait for the next set of instructions before moving on to Section 2.

SECTION 2

Complete Section 2 after receiving and reading the caption for the photograph. Discuss and record your answers to the following questions. These questions focus on the non-Jewish individuals present in the photographs.

Knowing what you now know about the photograph ...

How would you label the individuals present in the photograph: helpers, Nazi helpers, willing helpers, unwilling helpers, a combination of these, or none of these? Explain your answer and the reasons you used in making it.

In order for the Holocaust to have happened, how necessary was the action taking place in the photograph? If more than one behavior is occurring, rate each action separately.

1
(Not at all necessary)

3

5
(Neutral)

7

10
(Absolutely necessary)

Explain your choice:

What might be the motivations of, or the pressures on, the individuals for their actions?
List as many as you think might explain their actions.

What additional questions does this photograph raise?

Lesson Plan

Some were Neighbors Activity

Photo Activity

Rationale

Looking at the events of the Holocaust through the theme of collaboration and complicity provides educators with a unique understanding of why and how the Holocaust occurred.

Overview

This photo activity has students examine photographs from the Holocaust which may or may not be familiar to them. By examining the photographs, first without a caption and then with a caption, students see the behaviors of ordinary individuals and think about the pressures and motives that might have shaped the behaviors.

Grade Level

7–12

Learning Outcomes

Holocaust:

1. Nazi leaders needed and found a broad range of helpers.
2. The range of behaviors and actions necessary to carry out the Holocaust is much more extensive than previously realized or understood (genocide doesn't just happen on its own); help ranged from active participation to passive complicity.
3. Seemingly “innocent” actions, professional duties, and other seemingly inconspicuous acts had consequences even if the participants were “just doing their job” or “simply minding their own business.”
4. Knowledge of Nazi persecution of Jews was well-known if not always understood throughout Nazi-occupied Europe.

CCSSS:(<http://www.cpalms.org/Public/>)

<Reading for Informational Text>

LACC.910.RI.3.7: Analyze various accounts of a subject told in different mediums (e.g., a person's life story in both print and multimedia), determining which details are emphasized in each account.

LACC.910.RI.3.8: Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is valid and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; identify false statements and fallacious reasoning.

<Reading: Literacy in History/Social Studies 6-12>

LACC.910.RH.1.1: Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, attending to such features as the date and origin of the information.

LACC.910.RH.1.2: Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of how key events or ideas develop over the course of the text.

LACC.910.RH.1.3: Analyze in detail a series of events described in a text; determine whether earlier events caused later ones or simply preceded them.

Writing: Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Studies

<Writing>

LACC.910.WHST.2.6: Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology's capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically.

<Speaking and Listening>

LACC.910.SL.2.4: Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and task.

LACC.910.SL.2.5: Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest.

Instructions for Educators

1. Divide the students into groups of two or three.
2. Each group receives a worksheet and one photograph without a caption. (Note, there are seven different photographs. Several of the groups, depending on class size, will be examining the same photograph, but that is not a problem).
3. Students examine the photograph (without the caption) and answer the questions in Section 1 on the worksheet. (5 minutes)
4. When finished, hand out the same photograph to each group but this time with the caption and have the students read the caption and answer the questions in Section 2 on the reverse side of the worksheet. (12–15 minutes)
5. Bring the students back together as one large group. Distribute the photo activity chart to each student.
6. Have each of the group report out on their photograph with particular emphasis to sharing their answers to the questions in Section 2. As they do, each student should fill in the corresponding boxes on the chart for that particular photograph.
7. Many educators find it helpful to project the photographs on a large screen for all to see since not all of the groups will have seen or examined all the images. View and download the seven photographs from the Image Gallery.
8. When the activity is complete, students will have seven examples of ordinary men and women contributing, in often-times ordinary ways, to Nazi Germany's persecution and eventual annihilation of Europe's Jews. The seven pictures when seen together offer students a unique understanding of how and why the Holocaust occurred.
9. Select an image and share their reflections or view other people's comments online at Some were Neighbors online exhibition at www.ushmm.org

Some Were Neighbors: Collaboration & Complicity in the Holocaust

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Collaboration & Complicity in the Holocaust

Resource

Book Tittles

1. *Ordinary Men* by Christopher Browning
2. *Children and Fire* by Ursula Hegi
3. *A Small Town Near Auschwitz* by Mary Fulbrook
4. *The Diary of Samuel Golfard and the Holocaust in Galicia*, Wendy Lower
5. *Neighbors* by Jan Grosz
6. *Collaboration with the Nazis: Public Discourse after the Holocaust (Routledge Jewish Studies Series)* by Roni Stauber (2010)
7. *Collaboration in the Holocaust: Crimes of the Local Police in Belorussia and Ukraine, 1941-44 (Palgrave Macmillan)* by Martin Dean (2000)

Additional Electronic Resources for Teaching about the Holocaust

1. United State Holocaust Memorial Museum (www.ushmm.org)
2. FAU Center for the Holocaust and Human Rights (CHHRE)
3. Echoes and Reflections (<http://www.echoesandreflections.org/>)
4. Facing History and Ourselves (<http://www.facinghistory.org/>)
5. The Holocaust Studies, Multicultural Department of PBS





Jews at killing site. Wednesday, August 27, 1941 - Thursday, August 28, 1941 Kamenets-Podolsk, [Ukraine; Podolia] USSR. USHMM



Jews at the killing site outside of Kamenets-Podolsk

Gyula Spitz, a Hungarian Jew from Budapest, was a cab driver in a suburb of the city prior to his conscription into the Hungarian army. For reasons unknown to him, Spitz was not forced into the Hungarian labor service, as were most Jews, but rather assigned to a regular army unit. He served as a driver from 1940 to 1942 and was responsible for transporting valuables, including furs, pianos, and paintings plundered from occupied territory by Hungarian officers. In return, Spitz was allowed to take home

some items for his family. During his military service, **Spitz** was stationed in Kamenets-Podolsk, where **he witnessed the mass killing of Jews by SS, Hungarian, and German military personnel on August 27-28, 1941.** Spitz was eventually arrested by the Germans, despite his status as an Hungarian soldier, and was sent to Mauthausen where he perished.

In the summer of 1941 thousands of foreign and undocumented Jews living in the eastern Carpathians were targeted for expulsion by the Hungarian National Central Alien Control Office. In July and August approximately 20,000 of these Jews were rounded-up by Hungarian units and deported over the Ukrainian border into the waiting hands of the SS. After being transported to Kolomyia, these Jews were marched in columns to Kamenets-Podolsk. German authorities in the area found themselves unprepared to deal with the influx of Jews. Temporary holding areas for the Jews were established in the vicinity of Kamenets-Podolsk, but these were insufficient and SS and military authorities scrambled for a comprehensive solution. A meeting was therefore convened on 25 August 1941 at the headquarters of General Quartermaster Major Wagner in Vinnitsa during which SS-Obergruppenfuehrer Friedrich Jeckeln, the Higher SS and Police Leader for the Southern Front, promised that the issue would be handled by September 1. Two days after the meeting in Vinnitsa, on August 27, SS units, military police, Ukrainian auxiliaries and Hungarian troops, gathered in Kamenets-Podolsk. They collected the Jewish deportees, along with local Jews, and marched them to a point ten miles outside of the city. There, over a two-day period, the prisoners were machine-gunned into mass graves prepared from shell-craters created during the German invasion of the USSR. In his post-action report, Jeckeln placed **the total number of those shot at 23,600, the first five-figure massacre of Jews to take place on the Eastern Front.**

USHMM. "Jews at the killing site outside of Kamenets-Podolsk." Photo Archives. <http://digitalassets.ushmm.org/photoarchives/detail.aspx?id=1090889>. 11/15/2014.

Jews at the killing site outside of Kamenets-Podolsk. USHMM Photo Archives #28217. Courtesy of Ivan Sved Copyright of USHMM

Collaboration & Complicity in the Holocaust in *Night*

Role: Hungarian Police

“Crammed into cattle cars by the Hungarian police, they cried silently.” (P6)

“The same day, the Hungarian police burst into every Jewish home in town: a Jew was henceforth forbidden to own gold, jewelry, or any valuables. Everything had to be handed over the authorities, under penalty of death.” (P10)

“Hungarian police had entered the ghetto and were yelling in the street nearby. ‘All Jews, outside! Hurry!’ ” (P16)

“The Hungarian police used their rifle butts, their clubs to indiscriminately strike old men and women, children and cripples.” (P16)

“Policemen wielding clubs were shouting: ‘All Jews outside!’” (P18)

“‘Faster! Faster! Move, you lazy good –for-nothings!’ the Hungarian police were screaming.” (P19)

“The Hungarian police made us climb into the cars, eighty persons in each one. They handed us some bread, a few pails of water.” (P22)

Role: German Laborers

“German laborers were going to work. They would stop and look at us without surprise. One day when we had come to a stop, a worker took a piece of bread out of his bag and threw it into a wagon. There was a stampede. Dozens of starving men fought desperately over a few crumbs. The worker watched the spectacle with great interest.” (P100)

“A crowd of workmen and curious passerby had formed all along the train. They had undoubtedly never seen a train with this kind of cargo. Soon, pieces of bread were falling into the wagons from all sides. And the spectators observed these emaciated creatures ready to kill for a crust of bread.” (P101)

Event: the Galician forest near Kolomay

“One day, as I was about to enter the synagogue, I saw Moishe the Beadle sitting on a bench near the entrance. He told me what had happened to him and his companions. The train with the deportees crossed the Hungarian border and, once in Polish territory, had been taken over by the Gestapo. The train had stopped. The Jews were ordered to get off and onto waiting trucks. The trucks headed toward a forest. There everybody was ordered to get out. They were forced to dig huge trenches. When they had finished their work, the men from the Gestapo began theirs. Without passion or haste, they shot their prisoners, who were forced to approach the trench one by one and offer their necks. Infants were tossed into the air and used as targets for the machine guns. This took place in the Galician forest near Kolomay. How had he, Moishe the Beadle, been able to escape? By a miracle. He was wounded in the leg and left for dead...” (P6)

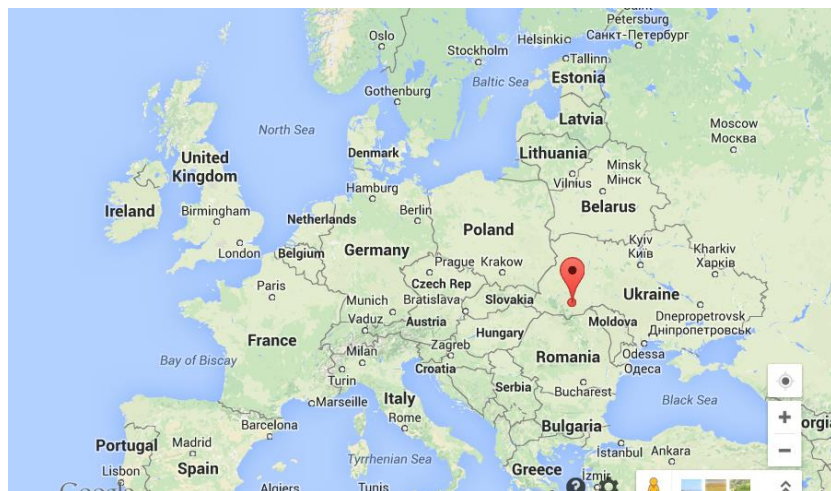
The Szeparowce Forest, Kolomyja

“On October 11, 1941, massive arrests were conducted according to lists prepared by the Ukrainians....They were taken first to the prison and later by truck on the Szeparowce Forest, 8 km from Kolomyja where were shot. The Great Synagogue of Kolomyja was also burned down during this Aktion.” (p792)

“On Thursday, November 6, 1941, under the pretext of looking for collaborators with the Soviets, the German forces led by Leideritz, assisted by Judenreferent (Jewish Affairs Officer) at the Gestapo,...He ordered the naked Jews to lie on the ground with their heads over the edge of the ditch they had just dug, and with an axe, he started to chop off their heads. Ebersold ordered him to stop, and the rest of the victims were killed by shooting.” (p792)

“On the same day, December 23, 1941, all Jews with foreign passports had to come to the Gestapo building to register....The next day these 1200 Jews were murdered in the Szeparowce Forest. Only a few Jews were released and later taken to Lwow.” (p792)

Dean, Martin. *Kolomyja*. Encyclopedia of Camps and Ghettos, 1933-1945. Volume II Ghettos in German-occupied Eastern Europe Part A: USHMM



Gwozdziec Miasto, Kolomyja County, Stanislawow District Poland LAT. - 48.58333 LONG. - 25.28333,
Gwozdziec Stary Area, forest, Gwozdziec Misto

Online Guide of Murder Sites of Jews in the Former USSR. Yad Vashem.

http://www.yadvashem.org/yv/en/about/institute/killing_sites_catalog_details_full.asp?region=Stanislawow

THE UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Encyclopedia of CAMPS AND GHETTOS, 1933-1945

VOLUME II

Ghettos in German-Occupied Eastern Europe

Part A

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At the end of June 1941, antisemitic elements among the local Ukrainians organized a pogrom that lasted three days, resulting in the deaths of about 150 Jews. After the pogrom, posters appeared on the streets in which it was announced that the Germans had not killed the Jews.²

In July 1941, on the orders of the German military administration, a Jewish Council (Judenrat) was created, and the Jews were ordered to wear white armbands bearing a Star of David. The first head of the Jewish Council was Maks Friedhofer, a capable and well-respected man. Unfortunately, the Gestapo murdered him in Lwów after only a few weeks. His replacement, Meier Kleiner, was criticized for his personal greed. In accordance with German orders, he organized the collection of a large amount of Jewish property, especially valuables, retaining part for his own use.³

On November 10, 1941,⁴ a unit of the Security Police from Sokal carried out the first Aktion in Kamionka Strumiłowa, during which about 500 Jews from the intelligentsia were shot in the village of Obydów.⁵

In June 1942, 71 Jews from the villages of Żeldec, Dalnicz, Kłodno Wielkie, and Pieczychwosty in the Lwów district were resettled to Kamionka. At that time, 3,163 Jews were registered in Kamionka. The figure in April 1942 had been 3,189 Jews.⁶

On September 15, 1942, a Security Police unit from Sokal carried out a second Aktion in the course of which some 1,500 Jews were deported to the extermination camp at Bełżec and about 300 Jews were murdered in the town.⁷ In the course of a third Aktion on September 21, 1942, around 600 Jews from Kamionka were killed in Zabuże; Jews from Radziechów, Cholojów, and Busk, some 2,000 in all, were shot along with them.⁸ The Jews were possibly shot instead of being deported because a train could not be allocated to send them to Bełżec.

After the third Aktion, a Jewish residential district, or open ghetto, was established on September 30, 1942; it existed for less than one month.⁹ On October 28, 1942, during the fourth Aktion, the open ghetto was liquidated, and 1,023 Jews were deported to Bełżec. After the deportation, more than 100 Jews were uncovered hiding in and around the ghetto and shot near the town. Fifteen Jews were retained to clean up the ghetto area, but they were also shot once this task was completed.¹⁰ Following the ghetto liquidation Aktion, the town was declared to be "free of Jews" (*judenfrei*), which was celebrated by a personal visit from the governor of Distrikt Galizien, Otto Wächter.¹¹

Only about 20 Jews managed to survive the German occupation, most of them hidden by local Poles.

Rebay von Ehrenwiesen was under investigation for a period after the war, but the case was closed for lack of evidence. Nehring was acquitted on August 24, 1981, by the state court. Block died in August 1944. Heyduk was sentenced to life imprisonment on July 13, 1949, by a court in Munich.

SOURCES An article about the persecution and destruction of Kamionka Strumiłowa's Jews can be found in Danuta Dąbrowska, Abraham Wein, and Aharon Weiss, eds., *Pinkas*

ba-kehillot. Encyclopaedia of Jewish Communities: Poland, vol. 3, Eastern Galicia (Jerusalem: Yad Vashem, 1980), pp. 455–457.

Documentation on the fate of Kamionka Strumiłowa's Jews during the Holocaust can be found in the following archives: AŻIH (301/45, 4855, and 4926); BA-L (ZStL, 208 AB-2/14/1964); DALO; GARF (7021-67-84); RGVA (1323-2-292b) and YVA.

Alexander Kruglik
trans. Ray Brandon

NOTES

1. Tatiana Berenstein, "Eksterminacja ludności żydowskiej w dystrykcie Galicja (1941–1943)," *BŻIH*, no. 61 (1967), table 3; AŻIH, 301/4926.

2. GARF, 7021-67-84, pp. 11, 13; AŻIH, 301/4926 and 4855. Some sources, however, mention the participation of German forces.

3. AŻIH, 301/4926.

4. Verdict of LG-Stad, 10 Ks 9 Js 544/64 (29/78), in the case against J. Nehring, August 24, 1981.

5. GARF, 7021-67-84, p. 12; AŻIH, 301/45. According to another source, 300 people were shot; GARF, 7021-67-84, p. 13.

6. Berenstein, "Eksterminacja," table 5.

7. AŻIH, 301/4926.

8. Verdict of LG-Stad, 10 Ks 9 Js 544/64 (29/78), in the case against J. Nehring, August 24, 1981; Berenstein, "Eksterminacja," table 5; AŻIH, 301/4855.

9. AŻIH, 301/4926.

10. Ibid. See the account by the Einsatzkommando, Zug, SS-Pol. Rgt. 24, RGVA, 1323-2-292b, p. 29.

11. AŻIH, 301/4926.

KOŁOMYJA

Pre-1939: Kołomyja, city, Stanisławów województwo, Poland; 1939–1941: Kolomyia, raion center, Stanislaw oblast', Ukrainian SSR; 1941–1944: Kolomea, Kreis center, Distrikt Galizien, Generalgouvernement; post-1991: Kolomyia, raion center, Ivano-Frankivsk oblast', Ukraine

Kołomyja is located 51 kilometers (32 miles) south-southeast of Stanisławów. In 1938, in so-called metropolitan Kolomyja (after the inclusion of the villages of Szeparowce, Diatkon, Korolówka, and Wierbiąż Niżny), the Jewish population stood at 20,000.¹

By 1941, owing to a great influx of Jewish refugees, first from Germany and Austria, and later from Poland and Hungary, the Jewish population of Kołomyja reached about 30,000.²

On the night of June 21–22, 1941, the German air force bombed Kołomyja. The bulk of Jewish Communists, as well as many young people and students, tried to flee into the interior of the Soviet Union, and many of them succeeded. The vast majority of the Jewish population of Kolomyja stayed for many reasons, among them lack of transportation, the absence of any call to leave from the Jewish leadership, and



The mother and son of the Kołomyja rabbi, n.d. Both perished in the Holocaust.

USHMM WS #63415, COURTESY OF YIVO

the inability to imagine what would await them at the hands of the Germans.

On July 1, 1941, the last units of the Red Army left Kołomyja, and local Ukrainians established their own authority in the city. On July 3, Hungarian tanks entered Kołomyja and established a military occupation.

On Friday, July 4, 1941, the Ukrainians in Kołomyja organized an anti-Jewish pogrom. Jews were forced out of their houses, beaten, and humiliated. Then 300 Jews were forced to remove the Lenin statue from Piłsudski Square with their bare hands.³ Another group of Jews was forced into the city park to remove the statues of Stalin and Lenin. Jews were forced to stand facing a fence, and the Ukrainians were preparing to shoot them when a deputy mayor arrived and stopped this Aktion.⁴ Similar pogroms, in which hundreds of Jews were killed, took place in the small towns and villages in the vicinity of Kołomyja.⁵

In Kołomyja, the Ukrainians were unhappy with Hungarian rule. To prove to the Germans their own superior

organizational abilities, they prepared lists of the Jewish intelligentsia for forced labor. Zenon Pryhrodskij, the head of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN), prepared the lists.⁶ On July 16, 1941, a mobile Security Police unit from Stanisławów arrived in Kołomyja, and the local Ukrainians gathered 110 Jews from the list and led them towards the former village of Korolówka.⁷ The Jews were told to march with shovels, and at the rear of the column was a German car with a machine gun. Upon their arrival in Korolówka, the Jews were told to undress and to start digging ditches. Realizing what awaited them, most Jews stopped digging and started to pray or just lay on the ground. At the last moment, the commandant of the Hungarian garrison was informed about the intentions of the Ukrainians and the Germans. He arrived at Korolówka and stopped the Aktion.⁸

On August 1, 1941, Hans Frank declared the annexation of Eastern Galicia to the Generalgouvernement, and on that day the administration of Kołomyja was transferred into German hands.

The anti-Jewish repressions intensified. The new Kreishauptmann, Klaus Peter Volkmann, ordered all Jews aged 6 and older to wear armbands bearing the Star of David; he appointed a Jewish Council (Judenrat) supervised by the Gestapo and ordered all Jews between the ages of 12 and 60 to perform forced labor. The Jewish Council was ordered to conduct a census of all Jewish inhabitants in Kołomyja.⁹

At the end of September 1941, Volkmann and Peter Leideritz, the head of the Gestapo, appointed a chairman of the Judenrat for Kołomyja, which now also represented the surrounding towns: Kutu, Kosów, Jabłonów, Horodenka, Zabłotów, Śniatyń, and Żabie. Mordechai Markus Horowitz was appointed chairman of the Jewish Council. He was a respected pre-war industrialist in Kołomyja who accepted this position out of a sense of obligation towards the Jewish community. Horowitz believed that the Jews should fulfill all German orders quickly and fully, and he made sure that all the Jews complied.

The German authorities in general and the Gestapo in particular used the Jewish Council in Kołomyja as their tool to carry out their repressive policies. The duties of the Judenrat included the confiscation of valuables, organization of Jews for labor, and at a later date, assistance with the deportations of Jews from Kołomyja. Often it appeared that the Jewish Council was bending over backwards to fulfill the German demands.¹⁰

The Judenrat employed 300 people and consisted of six departments as follows:

1. A labor bureau (Arbeitsamt) was established to organize forced labor. A succession of well-known personalities headed this section of the Jewish Council, and it introduced special worker identification cards and permanent places of work.¹¹
2. A provisioning department (Beschaffungsamt) was in charge of the confiscation of goods from Jewish

homes, as well as the preparation of apartments for the Germans.

3. A supply department (Approvisationsabteilung), with Shayke Frisch as its head, was in charge of dividing up the meager provisions.
4. A housing department (Wohnungsamt) had to find living space for the large number of people brought to Kołomyja both before and after the establishment of the ghetto.
5. A registration department (Registrationsabteilung) employed five clerks who managed the files of the inhabitants of the Kołomyja ghetto, usually based on the ration cards. The files never reflected the true number of Jews in the city. After each Aktion, new ration cards were issued, each time in a different color. Many people preferred not to apply for new ration cards for their children and elders, to protect them from certain death.
6. A Jewish post office (Postamt), headed by Zindel Neuman, was established within the Judenrat, as Jews were not allowed to use the city post office. Jewish mail was distributed there, and outgoing mail was prepared for the German censor so the mail could go out.

The building of the Jewish Council became the center of all activities for Jews in Kołomyja. All labor details left from there, all barter took place there, and all information and rumors were exchanged in front of the Judenrat building.¹²

With time, Markus Horowitz, the chairman of the Jewish Council, moved into the Judenrat building, gave all his money to the Judenrat, and ate only in the soup kitchens. He even refused to ask for the release of his wife from a roundup. Horowitz used to say, "[G]ive them everything and you will stay alive."¹³ Many believed that Horowitz slowly went insane, and he finally committed suicide in November 1942 together with his sister.

The Germans chose the eve of the Jewish New Year—September 21, 1941—to expel the Jewish population from the villages in the vicinity of Kołomyja, sending them to the city. The next three weeks passed under constant Gestapo terror, including the forced removal of gravestones from Jewish cemeteries to pave the roads with them.

On October 11, 1941, massive arrests were conducted according to lists prepared by the Ukrainians. Jewish teachers, rabbis, doctors, and lawyers were arrested by the SD, commanded by SS-Obersturmführer Leideritz. They were kept in the Kołomyja prison until the evening, when they were taken to the Szeparowce Forest and murdered there.¹⁴

On the next day, Hoshana Rabba, the last day of the Sukkot holiday, October 12, 1941—the Gestapo, with the help of the Ukrainian Auxiliary Police (Ukrainische Hilfspolizei), dragged 3,000 Jews from synagogues, houses, and streets. They were taken first to the prison and later by truck to the Szeparowce Forest, 8 kilometers (5 miles) from Kołomyja, where they were shot.¹⁵ The Great Synagogue of Kołomyja was also burned down during this Aktion.

On Thursday, November 6, 1941, under the pretext of looking for collaborators with the Soviets, the German forces led by Leideritz, assisted by the Judenreferent (Jewish Affairs Officer) at the Gestapo, Ebersold, and Gestapo forces led by SS-Hauptscharführer Goedde, who later became a political Referent for the Kołomyja ghetto, surrounded the poorest part of the Jewish quarter in Kołomyja, along Mokra Street. During this and subsequent killing Aktions, more than 2,000 Jews were taken to the Szeparowce Forest and brutally murdered there. A Ukrainian, Chlipko of the Hilfspolizei, demonstrated how Jews could be killed without wasting ammunition. He ordered the naked Jews to lie on the ground with their heads over the edge of the ditch they had just dug, and with an axe, he started to chop off their heads. Ebersold ordered him to stop, and the rest of the victims were killed by shooting.¹⁶

On November 11, 1941, a few hundred more Jews were rounded up and murdered in Szeparowce.

On December 23, 1941, the Germans ordered the confiscation of all fur items in the possession of Jews, as well as any ski equipment, including sweaters and hats, in the so-called Fur Aktion (Pelzaktion).¹⁷

On the same day, December 23, 1941, all Jews with foreign passports had to come to the Gestapo building to register. All those who obeyed this order were imprisoned for the night. The next day these 1,200 Jews were murdered in the Szeparowce Forest. Only a few Jews were released and later taken to Lwów.¹⁸

On January 22, 1942, 400 of the most respected Jews in Kołomyja were caught and later killed in the Szeparowce Forest.¹⁹ Throughout February and March 1942, about 1,000 Jews per week were murdered in Szeparowce.

In March 1942, there were only 17,000 Jews left in Kołomyja. On March 23, the remaining Kołomyja Jews were confined within a ghetto, which was divided into three parts. The Jewish Police (Jüdischer Ordnungsdienst), consisting of 160 Jews, was established on March 26, 1942; they enforced German orders to move all the remaining Jews into the ghetto within 24 hours.

On April 3–6, 1942, the first deportation of some 5,000 Jews from Kołomyja to the Bełżec killing center took place. On September 7, 1942, an order was posted for all Jews to congregate at 6:00 A.M. on a large square. At the same time a roundup took place inside the ghetto, and all who were found in hiding were shot and killed. More than 10,000 people gathered in front of the Labor Bureau, trying to look their best. Then 1,300 people were selected to stay, deemed fit for labor, and the rest were slated for deportation to Bełżec. This Aktion was conducted by the Gestapo officer Prost, and Gestapo man Hallerbach was in charge of the confiscation of valuables from the deported Jews.²⁰

After the expulsion of the Jews from the small towns and villages, many who took cover subsequently emerged and were told by the Germans to go to the Kołomyja ghetto with a promise that they would be safe. On September 11, 1942, the Germans entered the ghetto at 4:00 A.M., rounded up 1,000

Jews, and deported them to Bełżec.²¹ During the four days between September 7 and September 11, 1942, 17,300 Jews from Kołomyja and its vicinity, including Śniatyń, Kosów, Kutry, Zabłotów, and Horodenka, were deported to Bełżec and murdered there on arrival.

On February 2, 1943, the final destruction of Kołomyja's Jews took place; 2,200 Jews were brutally killed in the ghetto by beating, clubbing, or shooting. Leideritz allegedly competed with the head of the Gestapo in Stanisławów as to whose Kreis would be "cleansed of Jews" (*judenrein*) first. Leideritz won this murderous contest.

Out of about 70,000 Jews who lived in Kołomyja (25,000) and its vicinity, 60 percent were murdered in Kołomyja and the Szeparowce Forest, and 40 percent were taken to the Bełżec extermination camp and murdered there on arrival.

During the deportations from Kołomyja to Bełżec, Szaje Feder, who was deported twice and escaped from the train twice, testified that between 100 and 120 people were pushed into each train wagon. After each escape, Feder was caught by local Ukrainians, beaten, and delivered back to the Kołomyja ghetto.

There were between 17 and 20 Aktions in Kołomyja. More than 200 Jews managed to escape and survived in hiding.²² The Red Army liberated the area in March 1944.

Peter Leideritz was the head of the Gestapo in Kołomyja from the fall of 1941 until January 1944. He personally directed most of the Aktions. Leideritz was extradited to Poland in 1947, tried, sentenced to death, and executed. Klaus Peter Volkmann (b. 1913) served as a Kreishauptmann in the Generalgouvernement and was Hans Frank's representative in Kołomyja until July 1942, when he was demoted for corruption. After the war, he changed his name to Peter Grubbe and worked as a journalist on foreign affairs for major German newspapers. He was never tried for war crimes.

SOURCES The following publications also contain information regarding the annihilation of the Jews of Kołomyja: Dr. Dov Noy and Mark Schutzman, eds., *Sefer Zikaron Li-Kehilat Kolomeyah Veba-Sevivah* (Tel Aviv: Irgun yots'e Kolomeyah veba-sevivah ba-'arets uva-tefutsot, 1972); Shlomo Bickel, ed., *Pinkas Kolomey* (1957; New York: Rausen Bros., 1979); and Tuvia Friedmann, ed., *Schupo-Kriegsverbrecher in Kolomea: Vor dem Wiener Volksgericht: Dokumentensammlung* (Haifa: Institute of the Documentation in Israel for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes, 1986).

Documents dealing with the persecution and destruction of the Jews of Kołomyja can be found in the following archives: AŽIH (301/1219, 1398, 1774, 2579); BA-L (ZStL, 208 AR-Z 277/60); DAI-FO; USHMM; and YVA (O-3/2141, 2145, 2147; and 1504/43).

Teresa Pollin

NOTES

1. YVA, O-3/2141, Jakub Heger testimony.
2. AŽIH, 301/2579, Anna Blecher Moritz testimony.
3. Noy and Schutzman, *Sefer Zikaron*, p. 274.
4. AŽIH, 301/1398, Szaje Feder testimony.
5. Noy and Schutzman, *Sefer Zikaron*, p. 274.

6. YVA, O-3/2141, Jakub Heger testimony.

7. Ibid., 1504/43; Cael Neider mentions a list of 115 Jews, prepared by Ukrainians.

8. Ibid., O-3/2141. According to Noy and Schutzman, *Sefer Zikaron*, this Aktion took place on July 24, 1941, and 2,000 Jews were dragged from their homes and gathered in the city park; 150 Jews taken from the Ukrainian list were sentenced to death for spitting on two German officers and put together with 20 other prominent Jews on a truck to Korolówka to be shot. They were saved by the Hungarian commandant at the last moment.

9. Noy and Schutzman, *Sefer Zikaron*, pp. 276–277.

10. YVA, 1504/43.

11. Ibid., O-3/2141.

12. Noy and Schutzman, *Sefer Zikaron*, pp. 280–281.

13. YVA, O-3/2141.

14. Ibid., O-3/2147, Edward Rotner Rudnicki testimony.

15. AŽIH, 301/1219, Wolf Hacker testimony.

16. Ibid., 301/1774, Salomon Schachter testimony.

17. Noy and Schutzman, *Sefer Zikaron*, p. 288.

18. YVA, 1504/43.

19. Ibid.

20. AŽIH, 301/1398.

21. Ibid.

22. Ibid.; Noy and Schutzman, *Sefer Zikaron*, p. 308.

KOMARNO

Pre-1939: Komarno, town, Rudki powiat, Lwów województwo, Poland; 1939–1941: raion center, Drogobych oblast', Ukrainian SSR; 1941–1944: Kreis Lemberg-Land, Distrikt Galizien, Generalgouvernement; post-1991: Gorodok raion, L'viv oblast', Ukraine

Komarno is located about 38 kilometers (24 miles) southwest of Lwów. The Jewish population of Komarno was 2,004 in 1921, comprising 25 percent of the total. According to the population census of December 1931, 2,390 Jews were living in Komarno.

Following the outbreak of war on September 1, 1939, Komarno was briefly occupied by the Germans. In the two weeks of occupation, Jews had to perform hard labor accompanied by physical abuse, and several were murdered. At the end of September, the town came under Soviet rule, and the Jewish Communist Eliezer Freiwilg was appointed mayor. Hundreds of Jewish refugees from western Poland arrived in Komarno and received some assistance from the local Jewish community. Many of these refugees were exiled to Siberia by the Soviets.

Forces of the German 17th Army recaptured Komarno on June 29, 1941. Immediately the Ukrainian police went on a rampage against the Jewish community; a group of Jews was put in prison and forced to remove the corpses of Ukrainians killed by the retreating Soviets, wash the corpses, and then rebury them. Also, Jews were kidnapped daily by Ukrainians and forced to perform degrading chores.¹

Initially, a German military commandant's office (Ortskommandantur) administered the town. On August 1, 1941,

Electronic Resources for Teaching about the Holocaust

1. United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (www.ushmm.org)
2. Yad Vashem (www.yadvashem.org.il)
3. Holocaust Memorials (www.memorial-museums.net)
4. Anne Frank House (www.annefrank.nl) and Anne Frank Center
(www.annefrank.com)
5. USC Shoah Foundation Institute (www.usc.edu/schools/college/vhi/)
6. Holocaust: A Call to Conscience - The Aladdin Project
(www.projetaladin.org)
7. Centropa (www.centropa.org)
8. Yale Avalon Project (<http://avalon.law.yale.edu>)
9. Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum (www.auschwitz.org.pl)
10. German Propaganda Archive at Calvin College
(www.calvin.edu/academic/cas/gpa)

Learning about Contemporary Genocide

(for you, unless otherwise noted)

Overview

Robert Gellately and Ben Kiernan, *Specter of Genocide: Mass Murder in Historical Perspective*.

Samantha Power, *A Problem from Hell: America and the Age of Genocide*.

Samuel Totten, *Century of Genocide: Critical Essays and Eyewitness Accounts*.

Bosnia-Herzegovina

Slavenka Drakulic, *They Would Never Hurt a Fly: War Criminals on Trial in the Hague*.

Zlata Filipovic, *Zlata's Diary: A Child's Life in Sarajevo*. (MS/HS)

Elizabeth Neuffer, *The Key to My Neighbor's House: Seeking Justice in Bosnia and Rwanda*.

Rwanda

Philip Gourevitch, *We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will Be Killed With Our Families: Stories from Rwanda*.

Jean Hatzfeld, *The Antelope's Strategy: Living in Rwanda after the Genocide*.

Roméo Dallaire, *Shake Hands with the Devil: The Failure of Humanity in Rwanda*.

Carl Wilkens, *I'm Not Leaving*. (HS)

Darfur (Sudan)

Daoud Hari, *The Translator: A Tribesman's Memoir of Darfur*. (HS)

Halima Bashir, *Tears of the Desert: A Memoir of Survival in Darfur*.

Gérard Prunier, *Darfur: A 21st Century Genocide*

Shawn, Goldfrad & Younglove (eds), *The Call of Memory* (with Teacher's Guide)
(MS, HS)

Alexandra Zapruder, *Salvaged Pages* (MS, HS)

Fiction

Ida Fink, *A Scrap of Time* (Short stories) (MS, HS)

Carol Matas, *Daniel's Story* (MS)

Uri Orlev, *Island on Bird Street* (MS, HS)

_____. *Man from the Other Side* (MS, HS)

Hans Peter Richter, *Friedrich* (MS, HS)

Markus Zusak, *The Book Thief* (MS, HS)

Pedagogy

The Historical Association, *Teaching History: The Holocaust Edition*
http://www.hedp.org.uk/files/th_141.pdf

UNESCO, *Why Teach About the Holocaust?*
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002186/218631E.pdf>

Film

Auschwitz: Inside the Nazi State (HS)

I'm Still Here (HS, MS)

The Last Days (HS)

One Survivor Remembers (MS, HS)

The Pianist (HS)

Holocaust Resource Starter Kit

The following titles have been suggested by United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Teacher Fellows as the basics for anyone teaching about the Holocaust. This is intended as a guide for you in selecting texts for use in the classroom.

Holocaust history

Non-fiction (for you):

Doris Bergen, *War and Genocide: A Concise History of the Holocaust* (HS)

Christopher Browning, *Ordinary Men* (HS)

Raul Hilberg, *The Destruction of the European Jews (single volume edition)* (MS, HS)

Non-fiction (for your students, and you):

Susan Bachrach, *Tell Them We Remember* (MS)

Michael Berenbaum, *The World Must Know* (HS)

Memoir

Alicia Appleman-Jurman, *Alicia: My Story* (HS)

Primo Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz* (HS+)

Irene Opdyke, *In My Hands* (MS, HS)

Art Spiegelman, *Maus, Vol. I & II* (MS, HS)

Gerda Weissman Klein, *All But My Life: A Memoir* (MS, HS)

Elie Wiesel, *Night* (HS)

Anthology

Hana Volavkova, *I Never Saw Another Butterfly* (MS, HS)

Hilda Schiff, *Holocaust Poetry*, St. Martin's Press (MS, HS)

Chiune Sugihara

Resource

1. Chiune (Sempo) Sugihara, The Righteous Among the Nations, Yad Vashem
<http://www.yadvashem.org/yv/en/righteous/stories/sugihara.asp>
2. Chiune (Sempo) Sugihara, Lesson Plan, Yad Vashem
http://www.yadvashem.org/yv/en/education/lesson_plans/sugihara.asp
3. Chiune (Sempo) Sugihara, USHMM
<http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005594>
4. Sugihara Conspiracy of Kindness, PBS
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/sugihara/>
5. Chiune Sugihara, Facing History and Ourselves
<https://www.facinghistory.org/rescuers/chiune-sugihara>
6. Visas for Life Foundation
<http://www.visasforlife.org/>
7. Sugihara House, Kaunas, Lithuania
<http://www.vdu.lt/en/welcome/vmu-art-spaces-and-museums/sugihara-house/>
8. Port of Humanity Tsuruga Museum
http://www.tmo-tsuruga.com/kk-museum/index_e.html

2015 Holocaust & Jewish Resistance Teachers' Program

July 1-July 14, 2015

A Summer Study Program in Poland and Germany
for Secondary and Pre-Service Educators

PROGRAM

The group will then travel to Germany and Poland. The itinerary for the trip includes visits to the following:

- Bergen-Belsen Memorial Museum
- Wannsee Villa in Berlin
- Olympic Stadium
- Track 17
- Memorial to the Murdered Jews
- Topography of Terror
- Book Burning Memorial
- State Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau
- Sites of Jewish heritage in Krakow
- Museum of Wartime Krakow
- Galicia Museum of Krakow
- Belzec Memorial and Museum
- Jewish heritage of Lublin
- Memorial at Treblinka
- Museum of the History of Polish Jews
- Ghetto walk

The goals of the program are:

- To advance education in U.S. secondary schools about the Holocaust and Jewish Resistance
- To deepen teachers' knowledge and strengthen their ability to implement Holocaust studies in their classrooms
- To teach each new generation about the Holocaust and Jewish resistance, so that they will know, understand, and never forget
- To further educational activities which use the lessons of the past as warnings for the present and the future

COST

Cost to the applicant is \$3,000, which includes:

- round-trip travel from Newark Airport,
- trips to historic sites associated with the history of the Holocaust in Germany, the Czech Republic, and Poland,
- outstanding hotel accommodations (2 to a room) in all locations,
- 2 meals daily.

NOTE: The \$3,000 program fee is supplemented by the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and other supporting organizations.

APPLICATION

An electronic application for the 2015 program is available online at www.hajrtp.org. **Applications must be submitted electronically.**

Applications will be evaluated by a committee as they are received and spaces are filled on a rolling basis—so applying early is to your advantage. All applications must reach our office no later than **Friday, March 20, 2015.**

CONTACT INFORMATION

Holocaust and Jewish Resistance Teachers' Program
c/o The American Gathering
122 W. 30th St., Suite 304A
New York, NY 10001
Phone: 212 239-4230

**This program is supported by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany ("The Claims Conference")
and is sponsored by the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Their Descendants
and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.**

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July 2015: HAJRTP Itinerary (Tentative)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Orientation Newark Airport Hotel	2 Orientation Fly to Frankfurt	3 Fly to Hannover Maritim Hotel Airport	4 Bergen Belsen: All day seminar and tour Travel to Berlin
5 Bus Tour: Berlin Olympic Stadium Track 17 Wannsee Villa Memorial to the Murdered Jews Group meeting	6 Sachsenhausen Berlin: Topography of Terror Book Burning Memorial Group Meeting	7 Travel to Krakow (train to Krakow??) Radisson Blu	8 Jewish Krakow Museum of Wartime Krakow Galicia Museum	9 Auschwitz- Birkenau Group Meeting	10 Belzec Drive to Lublin Group Meeting Grand Lublinianka	11 Majdanek Drive to Warsaw Bristol
12 Warsaw: Museum of History of Polish Jews Ghetto walk Group Meeting	13 Treblinka Last night dinner and	14 Fly home: Newark	15	16	17	18