

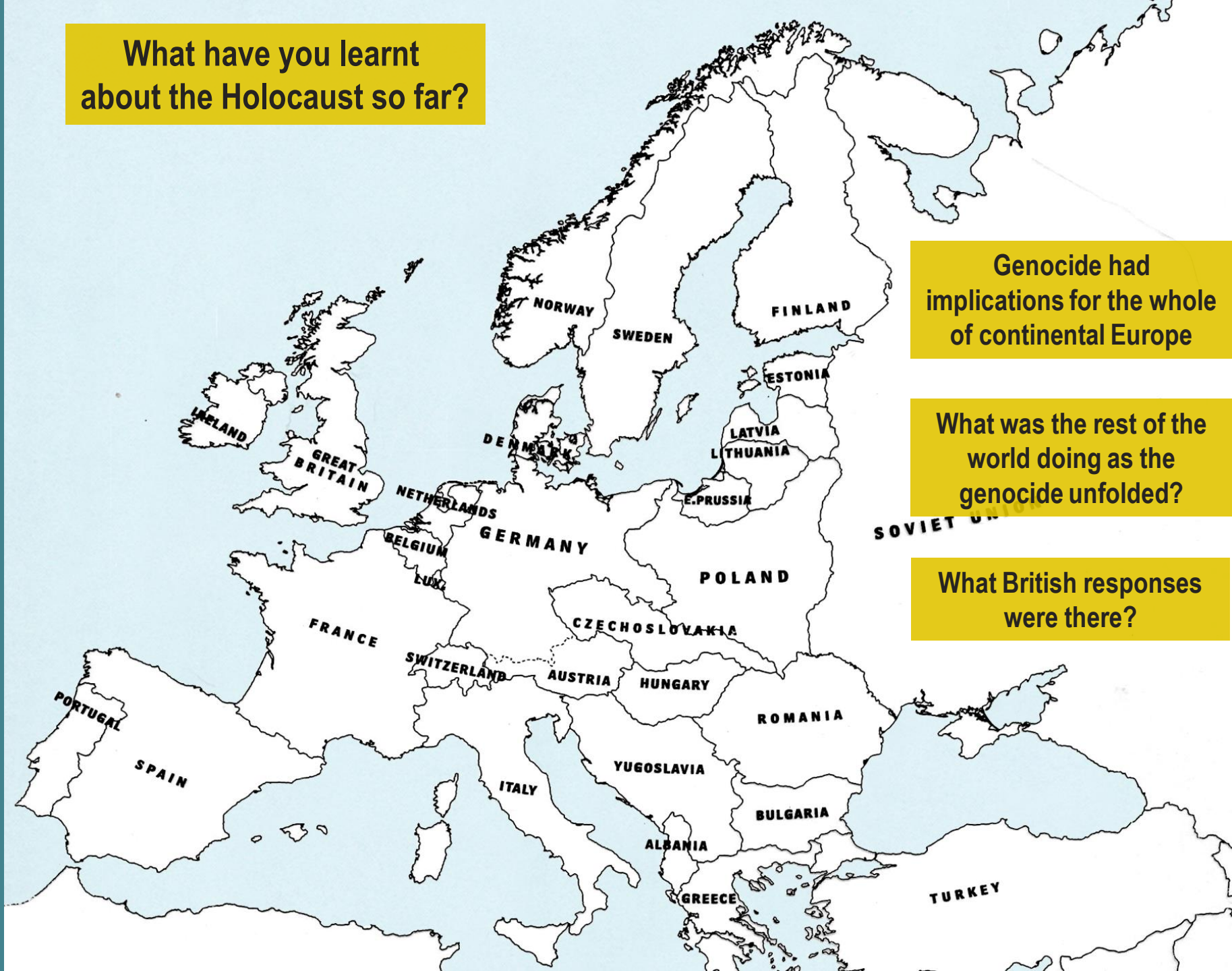


British responses to the Holocaust

What were the British responses to the unfolding genocide during the Second World War?



**What have you learnt
about the Holocaust so far?**



**Genocide had
implications for the whole
of continental Europe**

**What was the rest of the
world doing as the
genocide unfolded?**

**What British responses
were there?**

Taking a survey:

‘What happened when the British government knew about the mass murder of Jews?’

What do you think most KS3 students would say?

Take a survey...

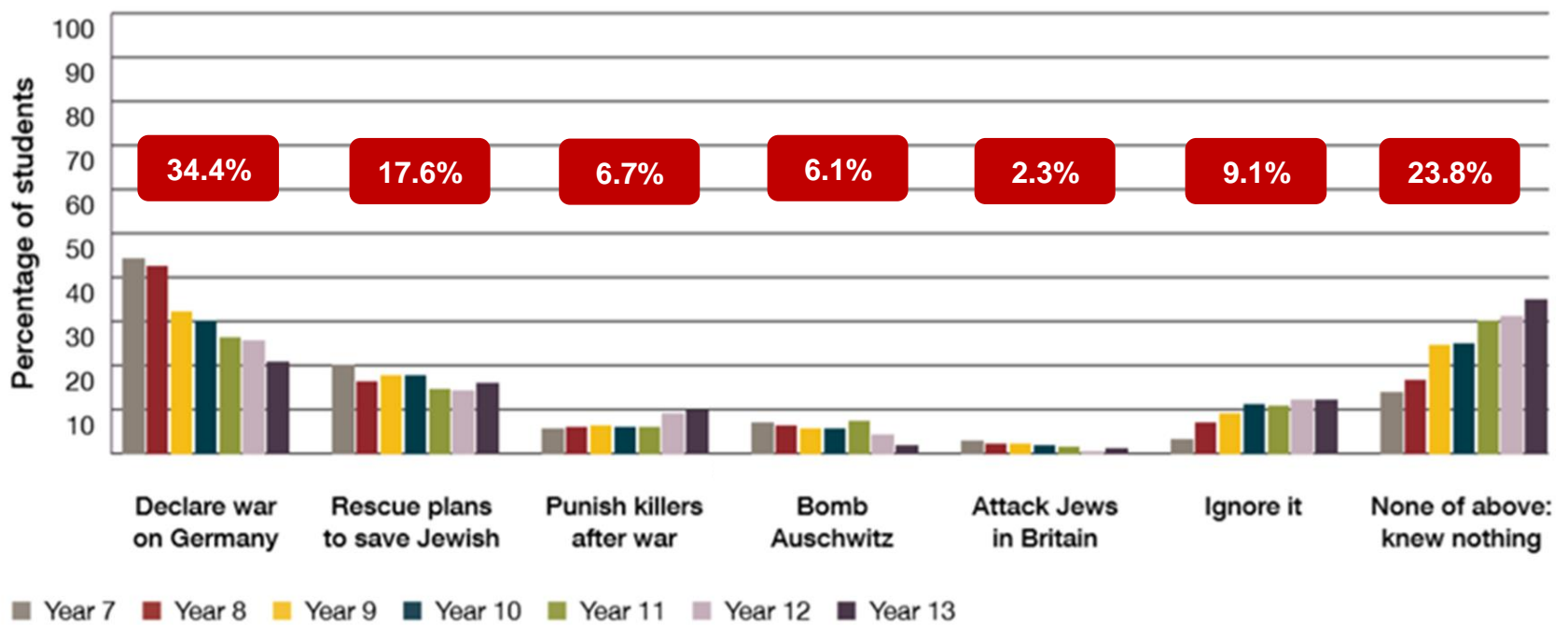
‘What happened when the British government knew about the mass murder of Jews?’

- A. Declared war on Germany**
- B. Developed rescue plans to save Jewish people**
- C. Promised to punish the killers after the war**
- D. Bombed Auschwitz**
- E. Attacked Jews in Britain**
- F. Ignored it**
- G. None of the above – the government knew nothing until the end of the war**

Results from the 2016 survey:

'What happened when the British government knew about the mass murder of Jews?'

Figure 7.3 Student responses to survey question 64, 'What happened when the British government knew about the mass murder of Jews?' (by year group)



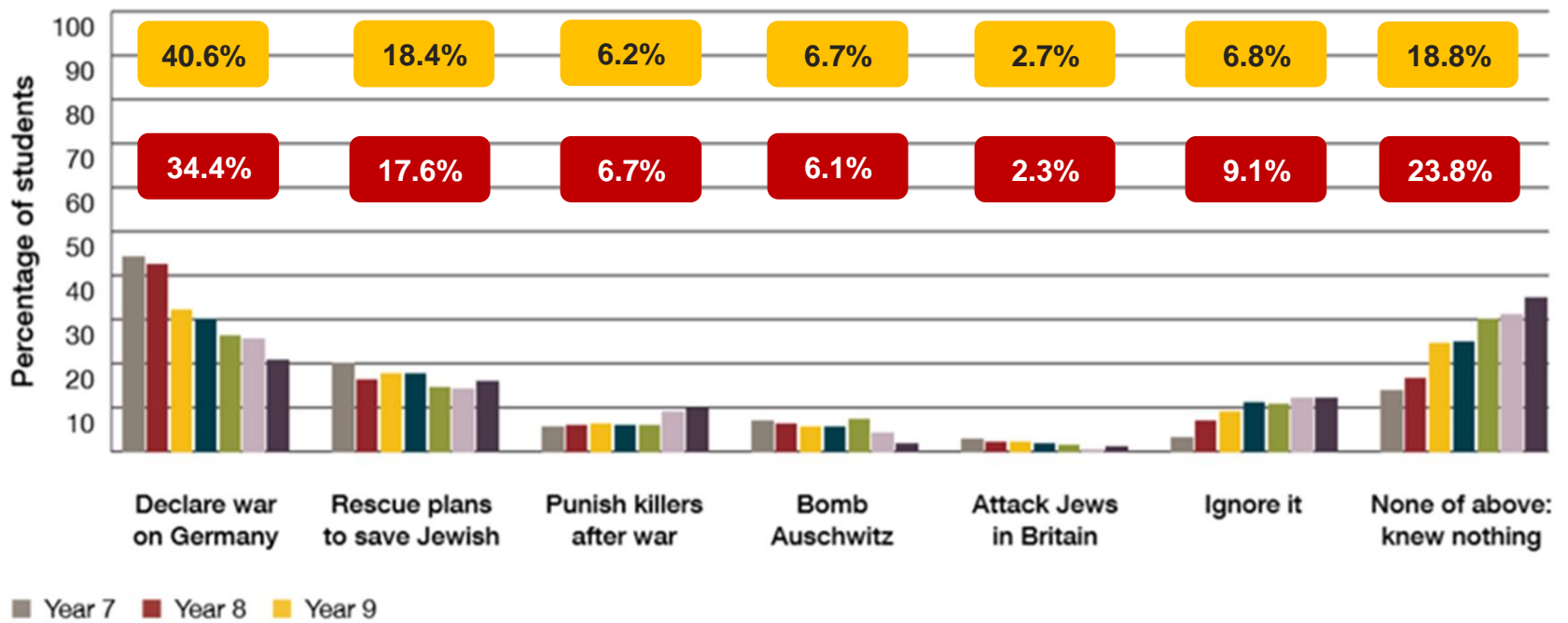
%

Total % for all year groups

Results from the 2016 survey:

‘What happened when the British government knew about the mass murder of Jews?’

Figure 7.3 Student responses to survey question 64, ‘What happened when the British government knew about the mass murder of Jews?’ (KS3 students)



%

Total % for all year groups

%

Total % for KS3 students

Where do our stories of rescue come from?

1939 and 1945

1939

What rescue stories do we choose to remember?



Nicholas Winton worked tirelessly to rescue Jewish children from German occupied Czechoslovakia.

On eve of war, he took applications from parents at his hotel in Prague.

Found foster homes willing to take them.

Rescued 669 children.

Altogether, about 10,000 children were rescued from Nazi-occupied Europe.

‘That’s life’



'What happened when the British government knew about the mass murder of Jews?'



In addition to the more than 600 children saved by Nicholas Winton, the British government admitted almost 10,000 Jewish children on the *Kindertransport* and some 70,000 refugees in all before the end of the Second World War.

Britain developed rescue plans to save Jews.

“What happened when the British government knew about the mass murder of Jews?”



© USHMM

CASE CLOSED?

But...

- Perhaps ten times as many Jewish refugees were refused entry into the UK as were admitted by 1939.
- *Kindertransport* were initiated by individuals like Nicholas Winton rather than the government.
- Rescuers had to organise fund-raising to pay for transport to Britain and to pay a guarantee of £50 that children would not remain in the UK at the end of the war.
- The period to 1939 was before the outbreak of the war, before the systematic murders had begun – did British policy change during the war?
- There are no photographs of the Jewish parents left behind in Nazi Europe. Those excluded from entry are not part of the British experience because Britain never saw them.

1945

What do you notice?
What might this tell you?



What was 'known' about the Holocaust in 1945?

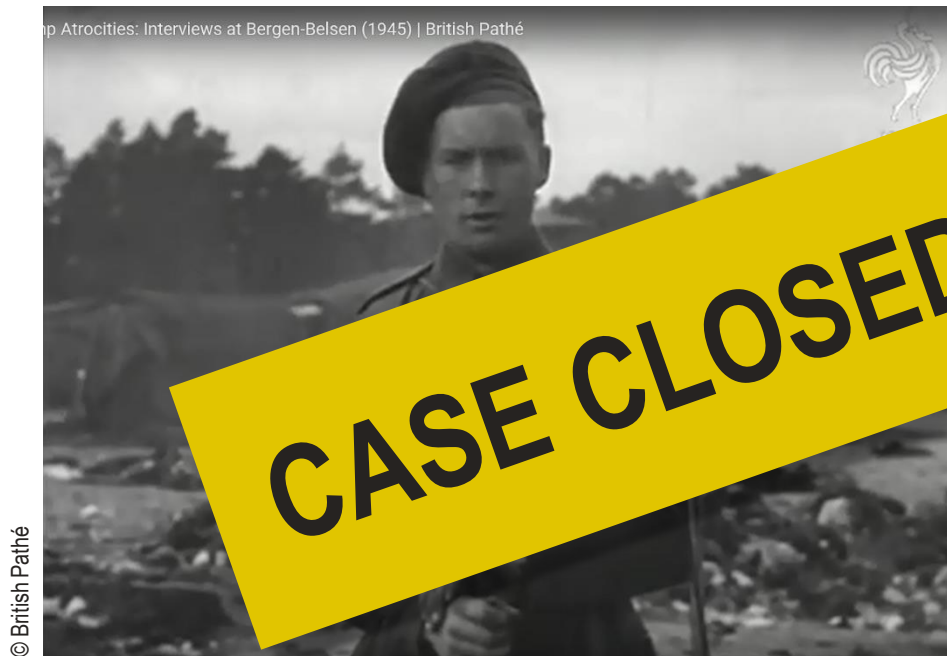
mp Atrocities: Interviews at Bergen-Belsen (1945) | British Pathé



‘What happened when the British government knew about the mass murder of Jews?’

So...

Britain knew nothing until the end of the war.



...or is it? Let's look at some sources that show what Britain knew about the Holocaust and when, and what responses there were.

**What do historical sources say about
British responses to the Holocaust?**

Source A (March 1939)



Source B (September, 1939)

'We and France are today, in fulfilment of our obligations, going to the aid of Poland, who is so bravely resisting this wicked and unprovoked attack on her people.'

At 11.15 a.m. Mr. Chamberlain had broadcast to the nation the following statement announcing the state of war existed between Britain and Germany: 3rd September, 1939.

"This morning the British Ambassador in Berlin handed the German Government a final Note stating that, unless we heard from them by 11 o'clock that they were prepared at once to withdraw their troops from Poland, a state of war would exist between us.

I have to tell you now that no such undertaking has been received, and that consequently this country is at war with Germany.

You can imagine what a bitter blow it is to me that all my long struggle to win peace has failed. Yet I cannot believe that there is anything more or anything different that I could have done and that would have been more successful.

Up to the very last it would have been quite possible to have arranged a peaceful and honourable settlement between Germany and Poland, but Hitler would not have it. He had evidently made up his mind to attack Poland whatever happened, and although he now says he put forward reasonable proposals which were rejected by the Poles, that is not a true statement. The proposals were never shown to the Poles, nor to us, and, although they were announced in a German broadcast on Thursday night, Hitler did not wait to hear comments on them, but ordered his troops to cross the Polish frontier. His action shows convincingly that there is no chance of expecting that this war will ever give us his practice of using force to gain his will. He can only be stopped by force.

We and France are today, in fulfilment of our obligations, going to the aid of Poland, who is so bravely resisting this wicked and unprovoked attack on her people. We have a clear conscience. We have done all that any country could do to establish peace. The situation in which no word given by Germany's ruler could be trusted and no people or country could find themselves safe has become intolerable. And now that we have resolved to finish it, I know that you will all play your part with calmness and courage.

At such a moment as this the assistance and support that we have received from the Empire are a source of profound encouragement to us.

The Government have made plans under which it will be possible to carry on the work of the nation in the days of stress and strain that may be ahead. But these plans need your help. You may be taking your part in the fighting services or as a volunteer in one of the branches of civil defence. If so you will report for duty in accordance with the instructions you have received. You may be engaged in work essential to the prosecution of war for the maintenance of the life of the people - in factories, in transport, in public utility concerns, or in the supply of other necessities of life. If so, it is of vital importance that you should carry on with your job.

Nor may God bless you all. May He defend the right. It is the evil things that we shall be fighting against - brute force, bad faith, injustice, oppression and persecution - and against them I am certain that the right will prevail."

BROADCAST IN
NATIONAL PROG.
REGIONAL
UPDATES - Continued from Page 1
Time 11.15 a.m. 3rd September 1939

Source C (c.1940)



THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN PRENTON
ARE TAXED TO KEEP SCUM FROM
EUROPE WHILST ENGLISH CANNOT
GET A HOUSE, ALIENS THROUGH THEIR
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH STEAL
JOBS AND HOUSES. YOU WANT TO
BECOME BRITISH. SO DO ALL THE
POLES WHO ARE EATING (GUZZLING)
FOOD IN ENGLAND). THIEVES, MURDERERS
RUSSIA DOES NOT HAVE 100,000
ALIENS LIVING IN THE COUNTRY.
EVERYONE HATES YOU. GO TO
PALESTINE

GERMANS MURDER 700,000 JEWS IN POLAND

TRAVELLING GAS CHAMBERS

DAILY TELEGRAPH REPORTER

More than 700,000 Polish Jews have been slaughtered by the Germans in the greatest massacre in the world's history. In addition, a system of starvation is being carried out in which the number of deaths, on the admission of the Germans themselves, bids fair to be almost as large.

The most gruesome details of mass killing, even to the use of poison gas, are revealed in a report sent secretly to Mr. S. Zygielboim, Jewish representative on the Polish National Council in London, by an active group in Poland. It is strongly felt that action should be taken to prevent Hitler from carrying out his threat that five minutes before the war ends, however it may end, he will exterminate all Jews in Europe.

It was the avowed intention of the Germans from the early days of the war to exterminate the Jewish population on Polish territory.

In a 1940 New Year message Gauleiter Greiser said that the only use to be made of the Poles was as slaves for Germany, but for the Jews there was no future.

trace of them has been lost. About 3,000 more were put into barracks in a Lublin suburb. Now there is not a single Jew there.

In Cracow during March 50 men on a proscribed list were shot outside their homes. A similar number of men and women were killed outside their street doors during an arranged night of terror in the Warsaw ghetto. All social groups in the ghetto were affected. More such nights are expected.

The Warsaw ghetto, actually an extensive concentration camp, houses

Source E (August 1942)

[CYPHER].

6. 7855
AUG 1942 DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

FROM BERNE TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Norton.
No. 2851.

D. 4.48 p.m. August 10th, 1942.
R. 6.25 p.m. August 10th, 1942.

August 10th, 1942.

YYYYYY

Following from His Majesty's Consul General at Geneva No. 174 (Begins).

Following for Mr. S.S. Silverman M.P., Chairman of British Section, World Jewish Congress London from Mr. Gerhart Riegner Secretary of World Jewish Congress, Geneva.

[Begins].

Received alarming report stating that, in the Fuehrer's Headquarters, a plan has been discussed, and is under consideration, according to which all Jews in countries occupied or controlled by Germany numbering 3½ to 4 millions should, after deportation and concentration in the East, be at one blow exterminated, in order to resolve, once and for all the Jewish question in Europe. Action is reported to be planned for the autumn. Ways of execution are still being discussed including the use of prussic acid. We transmit this information with all the necessary reservation, as exactitude cannot be confirmed by us. Our informant is reported to have close connexions with the highest German authorities, and his reports are generally reliable. Please inform and consult New York. (Ends].



The German is now more hated
in every country in Europe
than any race has been since human records
began.

In a dozen countries Hitler's firing parties
are at work every morning,

and a dark stream of cold execution blood
flows between the Germans
and almost all their fellowmen.

The cruelties, the massacres of hostages,
the brutal persecutions
in which the Germans have indulged

in every land into which their armies have broken

have recently received an addition
in the most bestial
and the most senseless
of all their offences,

namely, the mass deportations
of Jews from France,

with the pitiful horrors attendant upon
the calculated and final scattering
of families.



Source F (September, 1942)

This tragedy fills one with astonishment
as well as with indignation,

and illustrates as nothing else can do,
the utter degradation of the Nazi nature

and of all who lend themselves
to its unnatural and perverted passions.

When the hour of liberation strikes in Europe,
as strike it will,
it will also be the hour of retribution.



© The Imperial War Museum

Reference: CHAR 9/156 A

Image © The Sir Winston Churchill Archive Trust
& content © the copyright owner. 2001 8x

29 October, 1942.

My dear Archbishop,

I cannot refrain from sending, through you, to the audience which is assembling under your Chairmanship at the Albert Hall today to protest against Nazi atrocities inflicted on the Jews, the assurance of my warm sympathy with the objects of the meeting. The systematic cruelties to which the Jewish people - men, women, and children - have been exposed under the Nazi regime are amongst the most terrible events of history, and place an indelible stain upon all who perpetrate and instigate them. Free men and women denounce these vile crimes, and when this world struggle ends with the enthronement of human rights, racial persecution will be ended.

Yrs sincerely,
Winston S Churchill

His Grace
The Lord Archbishop of Canterbury.



© The Imperial War Museum



Source H (December, 1942)

'the German authorities, not content with denying to persons of Jewish race in all the territories over which their barbarous rule has been extended the most elementary human rights, are now carrying into effect Hitler's oft repeated intention to exterminate the Jewish people in Europe... (we) condemn in the strongest possible terms this bestial policy of cold-blooded extermination...such events can only strengthen the resolve of all freedom loving peoples to overthrow the barbarous Hitlerite tyranny... those responsible for these crimes shall not escape retribution.'



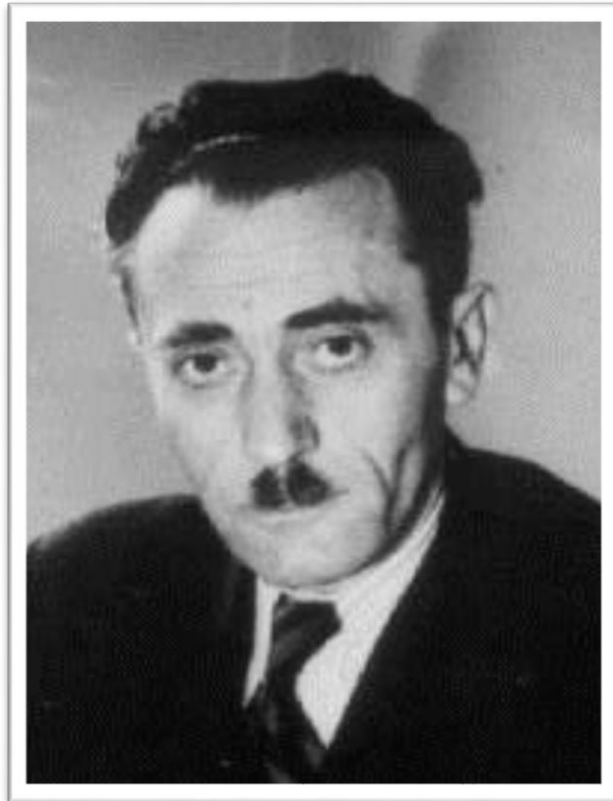
'The responsibility for the crime of the murder of the whole Jewish nationality in Poland rests first of all on those who are carrying it out, but indirectly it falls also upon the whole of humanity, on the peoples of the Allied nations and on their governments, who up to this day have not taken any real steps to halt this crime. By looking on passively upon this murder of defenceless millions of tortured children, women and men they have become partners to the responsibility...

...I cannot continue to live and to be silent while the remnants of Polish Jewry, whose representative I am, are being murdered. My comrades in the Warsaw ghetto fell with arms in their hands in the last heroic battle. I was not permitted to fall like them, together with them, but I belong with them, to their mass grave.

By my death, I wish to give expression to my most profound protest against the inaction in which the world watches and permits the destruction of the Jewish people...

I bid farewell to all and everything dear to me and loved by me.

S. ZYGIELBOJM'



75547

K42-
013

Source J (June, 1943)

RESCUE THE PERISHING

A summary of the position regarding the Nazi Massacres of Jewish and other victims and of proposals for their rescue

AN APPEAL, A PROGRAMME
AND A CHALLENGE

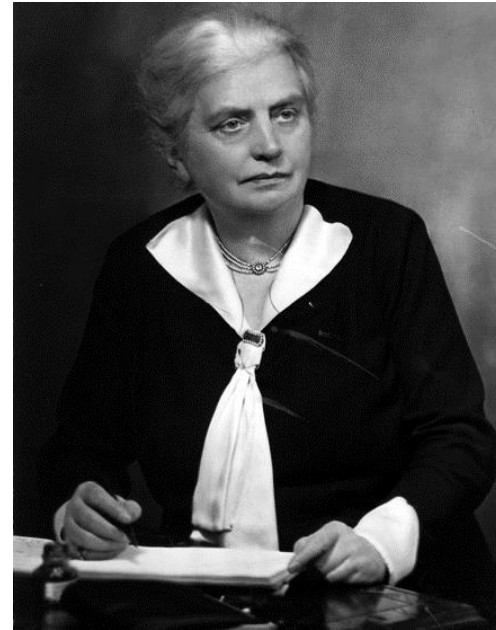
by

ELEANOR F. RATHBONE

M.P., D.C.L., LL.D.

LONDON

The National Committee for Rescue from Nazi Terror
30 Maiden Lane, W.C.2



"The above-mentioned Governments and the French National Committee condemn in the strongest possible terms this bestial policy of cold-blooded extermination. They declare that such events can only strengthen the resolve of all freedom-loving peoples to overthrow the barbarous Hitlerite tyranny. They re-affirm their solemn resolution to ensure that those responsible for these crimes shall not escape retribution, and to press on with the necessary practical measures to this end."

But the "practical measures" then promised were for retribution not for rescue. The massacres continued. The later facts

Source K (July, 1944)

P/W CAMP OSWIECIM

1. 50°01.8'N 4081/128

19°12.2'E (867446)

2. 50°01'N 4081/128

19°17.7'E (928447)

Neg. N° 42594



P/W CAMP OSWIECIM
50° 01' N. 4081/128
19° 17.7'E. (928447)
Neg. N° 42593.



Hampstead

Atrocity Film Indirects

C.G.

M 40 B

3. 5. 45

"I think it has been rather an unfair trick of the Government to have fastened on these horror camps like this. I don't say it wasn't a dreadful thing, but I do think they should tell us the other side of the picture - the fearful disorganisation of Germany during the last few months, due to our bombing largely. Well, I ask you, would the Germans deliberately establish focal points of dysentery and typhus all over Germany if they could avoid it? They know as well as we do that it can't be confined to the camps once it has broken out. It will very quickly spread all over Germany. No, the disorganisation made it impossible to run the camps or supply them at all. I don't say they were run like the Ritz before all this, but I do think it's gross misrepresentation to suggest that the prisoners have been treated like that all along, deliberately. It just isn't sense."

As for the pictures of thin, starving people, dead and alive - well, dysentery and typhus are wasting diseases, and anyone suffering from advanced stages of them will look like that no matter what their diet is or has been."

‘What happened when the British government knew about the mass murder of Jews?’

- A. Declared war on Germany**
- B. Developed rescue plans to save Jewish people**
- C. Promised to punish the killers after the war**
- D. Bombed Auschwitz**
- E. Attacked Jews in Britain**
- F. Ignored it**
- G. None of the above – the government knew nothing until the end of the war**

So... having examined the evidence, what do you now think?

What stories should we tell of British responses to the Holocaust?

Telling the story of British responses

As a group, take the event cards and arrange them in any way you like that best explains British responses to the Holocaust.

You might consider:

- How events unfolded over time (use the A4 year cards to help with this)
- Which events might be linked together in some way (e.g. thematically, causally)
- Which are the most significant
- If you had to choose any 4-5 to 'tell the story' of British responses, which would they be, and why?

You have 15 minutes.



Telling the story of British responses

1940

23rd January
First operational break into Enigma (The German encrypted code)

May
Polish political prisoners begin to arrive at Auschwitz

10th May
Churchill becomes British Prime Minister

3rd July
The Madagascar Plan to ship all the Jewish people of Europe onto the African island

July-October
Battle of Britain – British victory forces Hitler to postpone invasion plans



1941

22nd June
Operation Barbarossa begins - the German invasion of the Soviet Union

31st July
Heydrich plans a 'final solution to the Jewish question' which leads to the organised murder of Jews by Einsatzgruppen mobile killing squads. Genocide has begun.

10th October
Himmler orders 'no emigration by Jews to overseas'

December
Opening of first death camp at Chelme

7th December
Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor. US and Britain declare war on Japan



1942

20th January
Wannsee Conference a meeting to coordinate details of the mass killing of Jews

20th March
First two trains arrive at Auschwitz II, which has an operational gas chamber

30th May
The British bomb Cologne, bringing the war to Germany for the first time

22nd June
Germany and Axis allies launch new offensive against the Soviet Union

23rd July
Treblinka death camp starts operating



1943

30th January & 2nd February
The German army inspected in Stalingrad and forbidden to retreat by Hitler, surrenders to Soviet troops.

8th September
The Germans seize control of Rome and northern Italy, after the Italian government tries to surrender to the Allies

9th September
Allied troops land near Naples in Southern Italy



1944

19th March
Mass deportation of Hungarian Jews to Auschwitz follows German occupation

6th June
D-Day – the Allied invasion of France

25th August
Paris is liberated by the Allies

Winter
Death marches – as the Soviet army advances, Himmler orders all concentration camp prisoners be brought into Nazi Germany, to work and to stop them telling their stories to the Allies



27th January
Auschwitz-Birkenau liberated by the Red Army

15th April
Bergen-Belsen liberated by the British 11th Division

30th April
Hitler commits suicide after dictating his last words, that even to the end he raved against Jewish people

7th May
Germany surrenders unconditionally

Newspaper reports Jewish murders May, 1942

**GERMANS MURDER 700,000
JEWS IN POLAND**

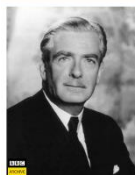
TRAVELLING GAS CHAMBERS

DAILY TELEGRAPH REPORT

It is called it 'the greatest massacre in the world's history'. It even mentioned the use of poison gas. The report is based on information sent to Szmul Zygielbojm of the Polish National Council in London by an underground Polish group that managed to smuggle details out of the country.

The Daily Telegraph reported the murders of 700,000 Jews in Poland.

The Allied Declaration December, 1942



Anthony Eden declared in the House of Commons that:

'reliable reports have recently reached His Majesty's Government regarding the barbarous and inhuman treatment to which Jews are being subjected in German-occupied Europe... The German authorities, are now carrying into effect Hitler's oft repeated intention to exterminate the Jewish people in Europe.'

Using the date cards:
an example

Kindertransport

November 1938 - August 1939



Following *Kristallnacht* the British government agreed to allow up to 10,000 Jewish children to enter the United Kingdom.

British citizens like Nicholas Winton worked tirelessly to rescue Jewish children.

Winton helped raise funds to pay for their transport and guaranteed the British government that they wouldn't remain in the UK after the war. In all, he found foster homes for 669 children.

The children's parents who were weren't allowed entry to the UK have been left out from public memory.

Deporting Jewish refugees

March 1939



When the Nazis invaded Czechoslovakia on the 15th March, some Jews decided to flee. Refugees at the time had no automatic right of entry to Britain, unless they could show they had enough money, or had someone to look after them.

In Britain there was some opposition to immigration on the grounds that threatened British jobs, and some feared that 'floodgates' would be opened if Britain offered sanctuary to all who wanted it.

British internment camps

c.1940



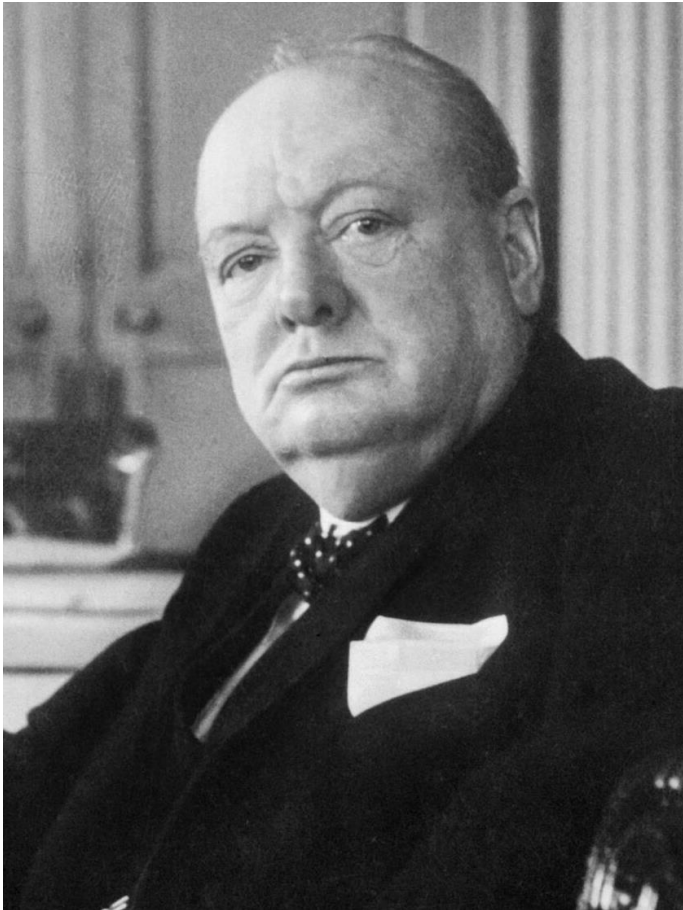
© Wiener Library

On the outbreak of war, German-Jewish citizens such as Ludwig Neumann, who had come to Britain as a refugee from Nazi terror, were seen as 'enemy aliens' and placed in internment camps, most on the Isle of Man.

Some British citizens resented their presence. They called the inmates 'scum,' 'aliens,' 'thieves' and 'murderers.' The National Archives has many letters that members of the public wrote to the Home Office at the time that used this sort of language.

Churchill: 'a crime without a name'

August, 1941

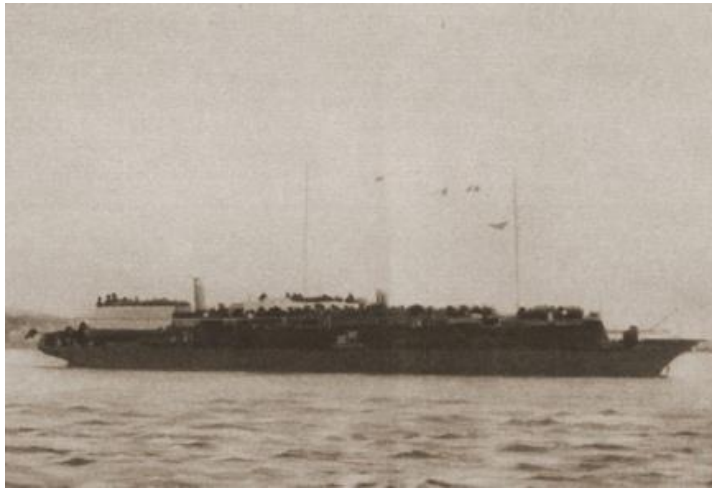


Churchill described the actions of *Einsatzgruppen* (mobile killing squads) as Hitler's forces invaded the Soviet Union in 1941.

'As his armies advance, whole districts are being exterminated. Scores of thousands, literally scores of thousands of executions in cold blood are being perpetrated by the German police troops upon the Russian patriots who defend their native soil...We are in the presence of a crime without a name.'

Sinking of the MV Struma

February, 1942



The MV Struma was a ship trying to take nearly 800 Jewish refugees from Romania to British-controlled Palestine.

The British refused the ship permission to land in Palestine, so the Turkish authorities towed her out to sea from Istanbul where she was sunk by a Soviet submarine.

All the passengers died apart from 19-year old David Stoliar, who clung to a piece of floating wreckage and was rescued.

Newspaper reports Jewish murders

May, 1942

The *Daily Telegraph* reported the murders of 700,000 Jews in Poland.

It called it 'the greatest massacre in the world's history.' It even mentioned the use of poison gas. The report is based on information sent to Szmuel Zygielbojm of the Polish National Council in London by an underground Polish group that managed to smuggle details out of the country.



Reigner Telegram

August, 1942

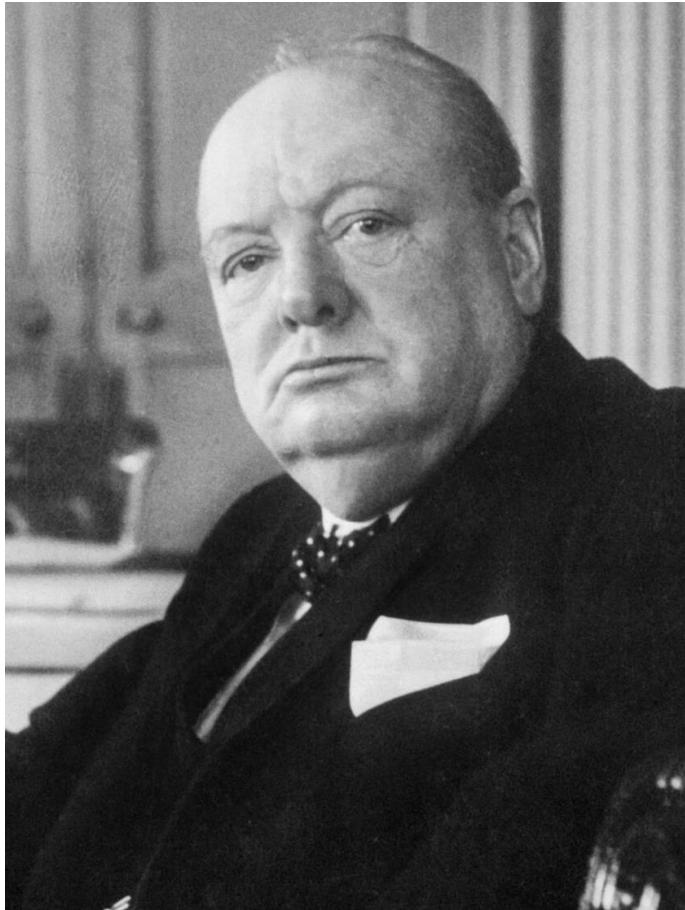
Gerhardt Reigner (of the World Jewish Congress) sent a telegram to the British government, which said:

‘received alarming report stating that, in the Fuehrer's Headquarters, a plan has been discussed, and is under consideration, according to which all Jews in countries occupied or controlled by Germany numbering 3½ to 4 millions should, after deportation and concentration in the East, be at one blow exterminated...’



Churchill: 'the hour of retribution'

September, 1942



In the House of Commons Churchill gave a speech declaring:

'When the hour of liberation strikes in Europe, as strike it will, it will also be the hour of retribution.'

It set out the consistent British strategic belief that it was necessary to win the war first, and then punish the perpetrators afterwards. Saving Jews was never made an Allied war aim.

Karski report

November, 1942



Jan Karski provided non-Jewish, eye-witness testimony to the British Foreign Office about events in Poland. He conveyed secret messages from the Polish resistance to the Polish government-in-exile in London.

His report described the liquidation of the Warsaw ghetto, deportations, and gassings at Belzec. It led to the Allied Declaration in December 1942.

The Allied Declaration

December, 1942



Anthony Eden declared in the House of Commons that:

‘reliable reports have recently reached His Majesty's Government regarding the barbarous and inhuman treatment to which Jews are being subjected in German-occupied Europe... The German authorities are now carrying into effect Hitler's oft repeated intention to exterminate the Jewish people in Europe.’

Archbishop of Canterbury's plea

March, 1943



In the House of Lords the Archbishop pleaded for the rescue of Jews:

‘The Jews are being slaughtered at the rate of tens of thousands a day on many days...

The priest and the Levite... were not in the least responsible for the traveller's wounds as he lay there by the roadside... but they stand as the picture of those who are condemned for neglecting the opportunity of showing mercy...

We at this moment have upon us a tremendous responsibility. We stand at the bar of history, of humanity and of God.’

The Bermuda Conference

April, 1943



This conference between the UK and US was to discuss the question of Jewish refugees who were still in Nazi-occupied Europe. It occurred on the day the Warsaw ghetto uprising transmitted its final message: 'save us'.

The British refused to allow Jewish refugees entrance to Palestine, which was a British mandate. The only thing the conference agreed on was to move 630 Jewish refugees who had already reached Spain to North Africa.

The suicide of Szymon Zygielbojm

May, 1943



Frustrated at the indifference and inaction of the Allied governments in the face of the Holocaust, especially in light of the lack of action at the Bermuda conference and the murder of his wife Manya and son Tuvia in the Warsaw ghetto uprising, Zygielbojm committed suicide in London in protest.

He declared that responsibility 'directly falls upon the whole of humanity, on the peoples of the Allied nations and their governments, who up to this day have not taken any real steps to halt this crime.'

Eleanor Rathbone

June, 1943

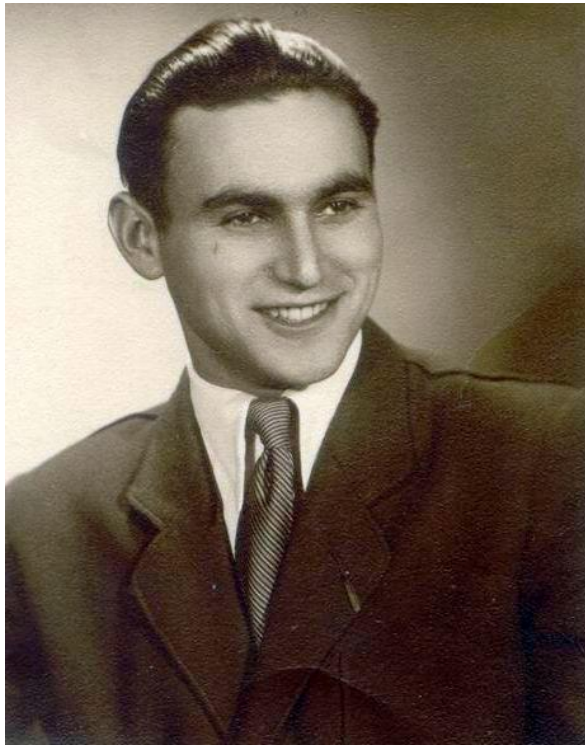


Eleanor Rathbone was a social reformer and independent MP. In May 1943 her pamphlet 'Rescue the Perishing' argued the British government had done little to help refugees.

Conservative MP Colonel Ward, responding to her in parliament, said that 'to admit a large number of refugees of the Jewish religion might easily fan the smouldering flames of antisemitism which exist here into a flame.' He also feared they would gravitate to the East End of London, where, after the Blitz, there was a severe housing shortage.

Vrba-Wetzler report

April, 1944



Rudolf Vrba and Alfred Wetzler were two Slovak Jews who escaped from Auschwitz in April 1944.

Although since November 1942 the Allies had known Jews were being killed in large numbers at Auschwitz, the Vrba-Wetzler report which was part-published in June, estimated numbers involved and provided the most detailed descriptions of the gas chambers. The first full English translation of the report was produced in November 1944.

Mass observation directive

May, 1945

Film was shown of the liberation of Bergen-Belsen by the British in April, in a cinema in Hampstead the following month.

One viewer found it difficult to explain what it was showing. They thought the government had played an 'unfair trick' by showing it because they believed the camp was so bad due to disorganisation at the end of the war, rather than a deliberate policy of starvation which, they said, 'just isn't sense.'

Hampstead

Atrocity Film Indirects

C.G.

M 40 B

3. 5. 45

"I think it has been rather an unfair trick of the Government to have fastened on these horror camps like this. I don't say it wasn't a dreadful thing, but I do think they should tell us the other side of the picture - the fearful disorganisation of Germany during the last few months, due to our bombing largely. Well, I ask you, would the Germans deliberately establish focal points of dysentery and typhus all over Germany if they could avoid it? They know as well as we do that it can't be confined to the camps once it has broken out. It will very quickly spread all over Germany. No, the disorganisation made it impossible to run the camps or supply them at all. I don't say they were run like the Ritz before all this, but I do think it's gross misrepresentation to suggest that the prisoners have been treated like that all along, deliberately. It just isn't sense."

As for the pictures of thin, starving people, dead and alive - well, dysentery and typhus are wasting diseases, and anyone suffering from advanced stages of them will look like that no matter what their diet is or has been."

Guernsey British Intelligence Report

August, 1945



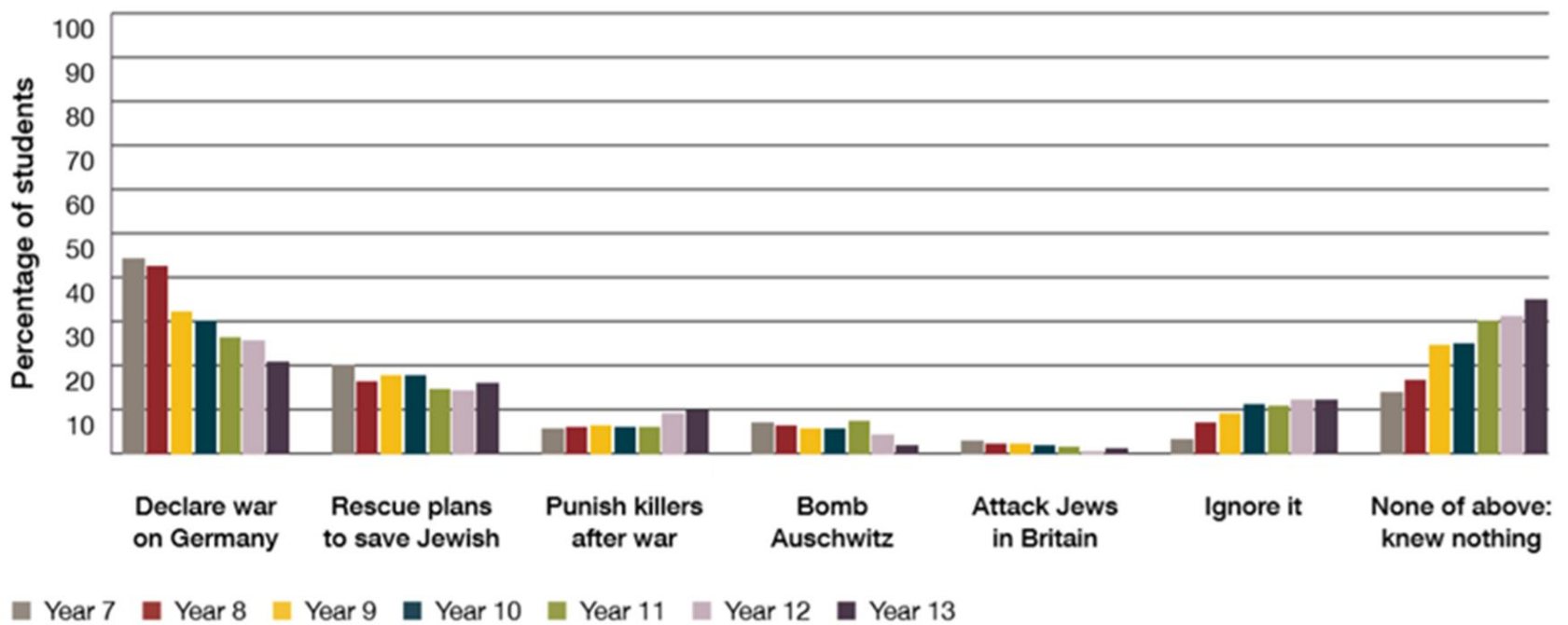
Part of the report about the Nazi-occupied Channel Islands reads:

‘When the Germans proposed to put their anti-Jewish measures into force, no protest whatsoever was raised by any of the Guernsey officials and they hastened to give the Germans every assistance. By contrast, when it was proposed to take steps against the Freemasons, of which there are many in Guernsey, the Bailiff [Alexander Coutanche] made considerable protests and did everything possible to protect the Masons.’

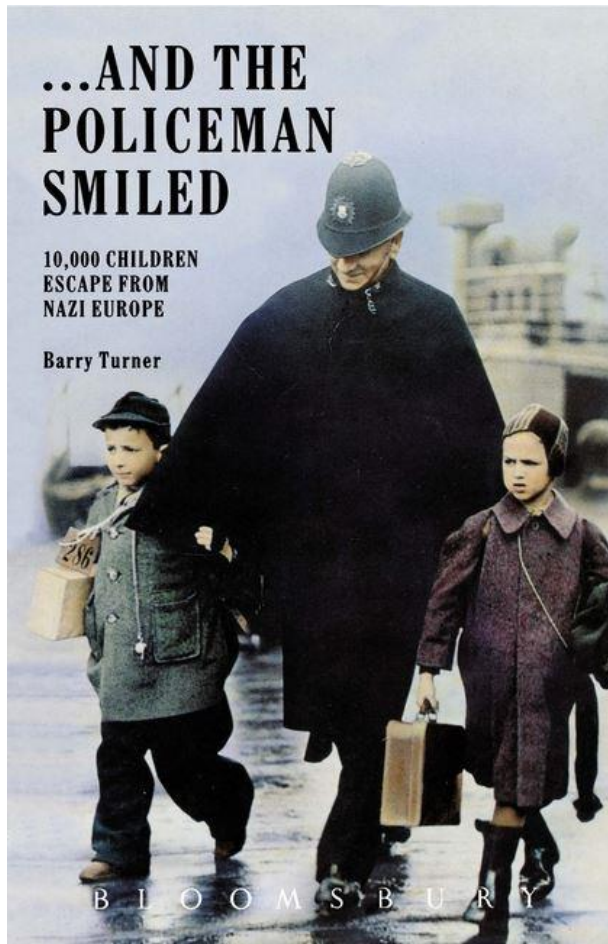
Reflections

So... having seen the events cards, what do you now think?

Figure 7.3 Student responses to survey question 64, 'What happened when the British government knew about the mass murder of Jews?' (by year group)



What stories of 'British' responses do we like to tell ourselves?

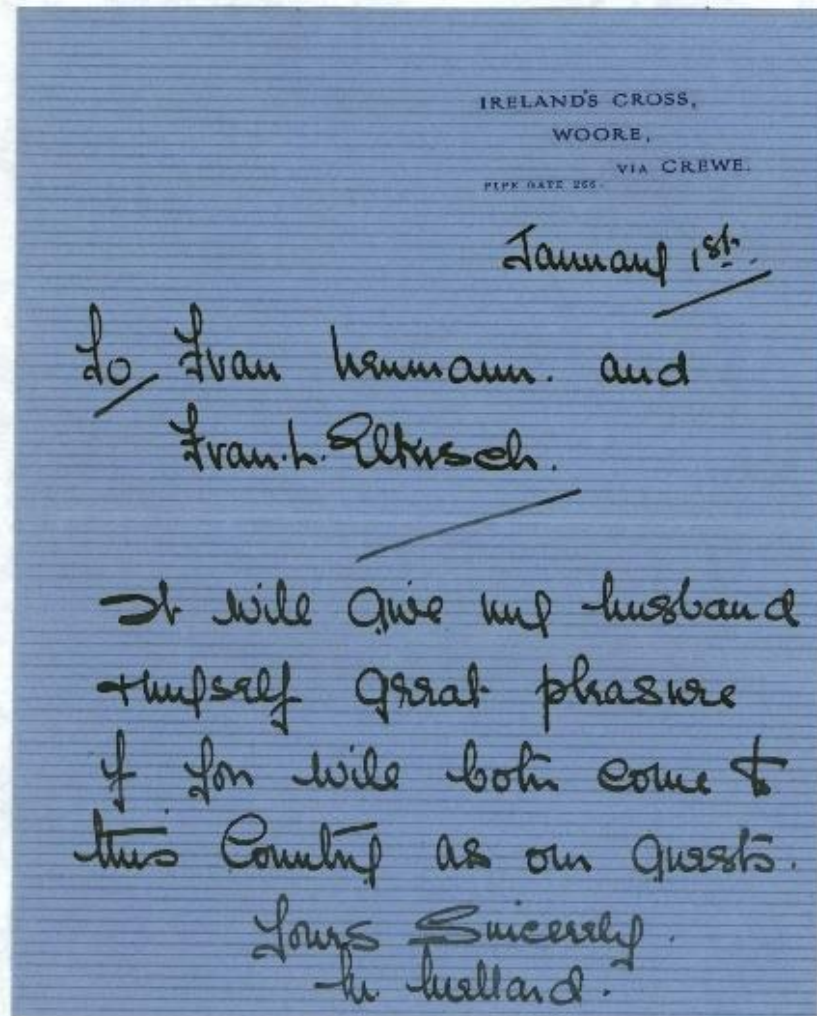


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What values do we cherish?

What does it mean to be British?

What kinds of values do we want to nurture?



THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN PRENTON
ARE TAXED TO KEEP SCUM FROM
EUROPE WHILST ENGLISH CANNOT
GET A HOUSE. ALIENS THROUGH THEIR
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH STEAL
JOBS AND HOUSES. YOU WANT TO
BECOME BRITISH. SO DO ALL THE
POLES WHO ARE EATING (GUZZLING)
FOOD IN ENGLAND). THIEVES, MURDERERS
RUSSIA DOES NOT HAVE 100,000
ALIENS LIVING IN THE COUNTRY.
EVERYONE HATES YOU. GO TO
PALESTINE

What does it mean to be British?

What kinds of values do we want to nurture?

Dear Sir,

I am amazed at the appalling Leniency, and restraint shown to the Fascist Scum, at Peel "Isle of Man." your Kid glove methods, are no good. What they need is Rough treatment and Bread and Water diet.

Why not use Machine-Guns on them?

They are self-confessed enemies of His Majesty: and they are Agents of Germany. Yet you keep them in Luxury. You are too soft for the job. Kid gloves, are no good for these scum. Why not issue orders to the troops, to open fire next time, they revolt. "Britisher" will eventually—

H.O. Received 25 SEP. 1941 No.5

Dear Sir,

I am amazed at the appalling leniency and restraint shown to the Fascist Scum, at Peel "Isle of Man." your Kid glove methods Are no good, What they need is Rough treatment, and Bread and Water diet. Why not use Machine-Guns on them.

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"Britisher"