DACHAU OPENS

On March 22, 1933, Dachau opened as the first regular Nazi concentration camp. It was located on the grounds of an abandoned munitions factory near the town of Dachau, about 10 miles northwest of Munich in Bavaria (in southern Germany). Dachau was established initially to incarcerate political prisoners, primarily German Communists, Social Democrats, trade unionists, and other political opponents of the Nazi regime. During its first year, the camp held about 4,800 prisoners.

Though it was not one of the extermination camps later established by the Germans to kill European Jews during World War II, Dachau was a training center for SS concentration camp guards; the camp's organization and routine became a model for all Nazi concentration camps.

Only five days after Dachau opened, on March 27, 1933, anti-Nazi groups led by American rabbi Stephen S. Wise organized a massive rally at Madison Square Garden in New York City to protest Nazi persecution of political opponents, Jews, labor leaders, and others.

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

March 20-27, 1933
Days before the Dachau concentration camp opened, the Nazis publicized its upcoming inauguration. Search within this range for news articles about the opening of Dachau concentration camp.

March 1 – August 31, 1933
Prior to Dachau’s opening, news of Nazi brutality during the first months of their regime flowed out of Germany. For several months after Dachau opened, sporadic stories emerged about prisoners killed at the camp. Search during this time period for news, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons reacting to early Nazi brutality and the Dachau camp.

Keywords
Dachau, concentration camp, Munich, Bavaria, factory, Nazi, communist, prisoners, Stephen Wise, Madison Square Garden
NAZIS BOYCOTT JEWISH BUSINESSES

In March 1933, the SA (Storm Troopers) attacked Jewish-owned department stores in German cities in an attempt to segregate Jews from the rest of society. Local police, not yet under Nazi control, unsuccessfully attempted to stop the attacks. Members of the SA continued the rampage and entered courtrooms, dragging Jewish lawyers and judges into the streets where they are subjected to humiliating public acts. International Jewish organizations and the press, which urged a boycott of German goods, publicized these attacks. In response, the Nazis organized the April 1, 1933, nationwide boycott of Jewish businesses in Germany, blaming Jews for the anti-German tone of the international press.

On the day of the boycott, Storm Troopers (Sturmabteilung; SA) stood menacingly in front of Jewish-owned department stores and retail establishments, and the offices of professionals such as doctors and lawyers. The Star of David was painted in yellow and black across thousands of doors and windows, with accompanying antisemitic slogans. Signs were posted saying, "Don't Buy from Jews" and "The Jews Are Our Misfortune." In some towns, the SA marched through streets singing anti-Jewish slogans and party songs. Throughout Germany, acts of violence against individual Jews and Jewish property occurred; the police intervened only rarely.

The official boycott began at 10 a.m. and ended at midnight. Although the national boycott operation, organized by local Nazi party chiefs, lasted only one day and was ignored by many individual Germans who continued to shop in Jewish-owned stores, it marked the beginning of a nationwide campaign by the Nazi party against the entire German Jewish population. A week later, on April 7, 1933, the German government enacted the Law for the Restoration of the Professional Civil Service, which restricted employment in the civil service to Aryans. Jewish government workers, including teachers in public schools and universities, were fired. Similar laws were passed in the following weeks affecting Jewish lawyers and doctors.
NAZIS BOYCOTT JEWISH BUSINESSES

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

April 1-4, 1933
News articles about the boycott of Jewish businesses.

March – April 1933
News articles, editorials, op-eds, letters to editor promoting an American boycott of German goods in protest of Nazi brutality against Jews and political opponents.

April 1933
Editorials, op-eds, letters to editor and cartoons reacting to the boycott of Jewish businesses and legal restrictions/removal of Jews from government positions in Germany.

Keywords
Boycott, Jews, Jewish, Nazi, Germany, Storm Troopers, brown shirts, Star of David, anti-Semitic
GERMAN STUDENTS, NAZIS STAGE NATIONWIDE BOOK BURNINGS

In 1933, Joseph Goebbels, Nazi Minister for Popular Enlightenment and Propaganda, began an effort to bring German arts and culture in line with Nazi goals. The government purged cultural organizations of Jews and others alleged to be politically suspect, or who performed or created artwork that the Nazis labeled “degenerate.”

German university students were among the vanguard of the early Nazi movement. On April 6, 1933, the Nazi German Student Association proclaimed a nationwide “Action against the Un-German Spirit,” to climax in a literary purge or “cleansing” by fire. On May 10, 1933, university students in 34 towns throughout Germany burned upwards of 25,000 volumes of “un-German” books, presaging an era of state censorship and control of culture. The students threw books onto large bonfires with great ceremony, band-playing, and so-called “fire oaths.” In Berlin, some 40,000 persons gathered to hear Joseph Goebbels speak. The May 10 nationwide program was a success, eliciting widespread newspaper coverage. Radio broadcasts brought the speeches, songs, and ceremonial chants “live” to countless German listeners.

Among the authors whose books students burned that night were well-known socialists, such as Bertolt Brecht; the founder of the concept of communism, Karl Marx; critical “bourgeois” writers like the Austrian playwright Arthur Schnitzler; and “corrupting foreign influences,” including American authors, Ernest Hemingway, Jack London, Theodore Dreiser, and Helen Keller. Jewish authors were singled out, too, with the books of Franz Werfel, Max Brod, Stefan Zweig, and Heinrich Heine thrown in the bonfires.

The book burnings were a visual affront to one of America’s most treasured freedoms—the right to the free expression of ideas. Following on the heels of a procession of abuses against Jewish citizens, the book burnings evoked widespread protest among the American press and public.

The American Jewish Congress deliberately chose May 10, 1933—the pre-announced date of the Nazi book burnings—to coordinate massive, nationwide street demonstrations against the Nazi persecution of Jews and the burning of books. The organized protest served as a catalyst for anti-Nazi groups wishing to publicly denounce the civil violations of the Hitler regime. The largest protest took place in New York City, where up to 100,000 people marched for six hours decrying events in Germany. At the time it was the largest demonstration in New York City history. Other mass demonstrations by a variety of American groups took place in cities across the country, including Philadelphia, Cleveland, and Chicago.
GERMAN STUDENTS, NAZIS STAGE NATIONWIDE BOOK BURNINGS

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

April 1933
News articles, editorials, op-eds, letters to editor and political cartoons regarding the German Student Association’s call for “Action against the Un-German Spirit.”

May 10–17, 1933
News articles about the Nazi book burnings.

May 11–31, 1933
Editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and political cartoons reacting to the book burnings and Nazi suppression of free speech, expression, and political opposition.

Keywords
DOROTHY THOMPSON EXPELLED FROM GERMANY

The Nazis were determined to prevent criticisms of their regime and reports of Nazi brutality from reaching the outside world. Foreign correspondents were closely monitored by German authorities and faced the continual threat of expulsion or even imprisonment and violence. Dorothy Thompson was the first American journalist to be expelled from Nazi Germany.

While working in Munich in 1931, two years before the Nazi seizure of power, Thompson had met and interviewed Adolf Hitler. This interview was the basis for a book, I Saw Hitler, in which Thompson warned about the dangers of Hitler gaining power in Germany. In response to her critical writings, and after Hitler was appointed chancellor, the German government expelled Thompson from the country in August 1934.

Back in the United States, in 1936, Thompson began writing "On the Record" for the New York Herald Tribune. It became a wildly popular syndicated newspaper column, running three times each week. By 1939, "On the Record" reached millions of Americans in more than 170 papers. She remained one of America's most influential anti-Nazi voices throughout the 1930s and 1940s.

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

August 25-28, 1934
News articles about Dorothy Thompson’s expulsion from Germany.

August 26 – September 1934
Editorials, op-eds, letters to editor and cartoons reacting to Dorothy Thompson’s expulsion from Germany.

Keywords
Dorothy Thompson, expelled, expulsion, Germany, Hitler, Nazi, prison, deity, religion, blasphemy, Goebbels
HITLER ANNOUNCES NUREMBERG RACE LAWS

The German government decreed the Nuremberg Race Laws (Reich Citizenship Law and Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor) on September 15, 1935. The laws were passed during a special session of the Nazi-controlled Reichstag at the Party's rally in Nuremberg, Germany.

These laws institutionalized many of the racial theories underpinning Nazi ideology, and provided the legal framework for the systematic persecution of Jews in Germany. The laws excluded Jews from Reich citizenship and prohibited them from marrying or having sexual relations with persons of “German or German-related blood.” Ordinances supporting these laws deprived German Jews of most political entitlements, including the right to vote or hold public office.

These laws represented a major shift from traditional antisemitism, which defined Jews by religious belief, to a conception of Jews as members of a race, defined by blood and by lineage. For this reason, the Nuremberg Race Laws did not identify a “Jew” as someone with particular religious convictions, but instead as someone with three or four Jewish grandparents. Many Germans who had not practiced Judaism or who had not done so for years found themselves caught in the grip of Nazi terror. Even people with Jewish grandparents who had converted to Christianity could be defined as Jews.

On November 14, 1935, the first supplemental decree of the Nuremberg Laws extended the prohibition to marriage or sexual relations between people who could produce "racially suspect" offspring. A week later, the Minister of the Interior interpreted this to mean relations between "those of German or related blood" and Roma (Gypsies), blacks, or their offspring.
HITLER ANNOUNCES NUREMBERG RACE LAWS

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

September 15-18, 1935
News articles about the Nuremberg Laws and antisemitism and discrimination in Germany.

September 15 – October 16, 1935
Editorials, op-eds, letters to editor and cartoons reacting to the Nuremberg Laws and antisemitism and discrimination in Germany.

October 18 – October 31, 1935
News articles about the Law for the Protection of the Hereditary Health of the German People.

November 14 – 30, 1935
News articles about the extension of Nuremberg Race Laws.

Keywords
Nuremberg, Nurnberg, Race Laws, Reich Citizenship Law, Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honor, Reichstag, Nazi, Nazi Party rally, Jews, anti-Jewish, anti-Semitic, antisemitic, Germany
AMATEUR ATHLETIC UNION SAYS "YES" TO BERLIN OLYMPICS

In 1931, the International Olympic Committee awarded the 1936 Summer Olympics to Berlin. Soon after Hitler took power in 1933, observers in the United States and other western democracies questioned the morality of supporting Olympic Games hosted by the Nazi regime.

Responding to reports of the persecution of Jewish athletes in 1933, Avery Brundage, president of the American Olympic Committee (AOC), like many others in the Olympic movement, initially considered moving the Games from Germany. However, after a brief and tightly managed inspection of German sports facilities in 1934, Brundage stated publicly that Jewish athletes were being treated fairly and that the Games should go on as planned.

Judge Jeremiah Mahoney, president of the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU), led efforts to boycott the 1936 Olympics, pointing out that Germany had broken Olympic rules forbidding discrimination based on race and religion. New York mayor Fiorello La Guardia, New York governor Al Smith, and Massachusetts governor James Curley also opposed sending a team to Berlin. The Catholic journal The Commonweal (November 8, 1935) advised boycotting an Olympics that would set the seal of approval on radically anti-Christian Nazi doctrines.

However, a determined Avery Brundage maneuvered the AAU to a close vote in favor of sending an American team to Berlin, and once the AAU of the United States voted for participation in December 1935, other countries fell in line and the wider boycott movement failed.

On August 1, 1936, Hitler opened the XIth Olympiad. The Games were a propaganda success for the Nazi government. Adolf Hitler's Nazi dictatorship camouflaged its racist, militaristic character and exploited the Games to bedazzle many foreign spectators and journalists with an image of a peaceful, tolerant Germany. As post-Games reports were filed, Hitler pressed on with grandiose plans for German expansion. Nazi persecution of Jews resumed.
AMATEUR ATHLETIC UNION SAYS “YES” TO BERLIN OLYMPICS

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

December 9-31, 1935
News, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons about the Amateur Athletic Union's vote against a boycott of the Berlin Games.

July 26, 1935 – December 31, 1935
News, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons about the debate over whether to send a US team to the Berlin Olympics.

August 1-31, 1936
News, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons responding to the Summer Games in Berlin, Germany.

Keywords
Olympics, Olympiad, boycott, Amateur Athletic Union, AAU, American Olympic Committee, AOC, International Olympic Committee, IOC, Avery Brundage, Jeremiah Mahoney, athletes
GERMANY ANNEXES AUSTRIA

Austria had endured a prolonged period of economic stagnation, political dictatorship, and intense Nazi propaganda, when German troops entered the country on March 12, 1938. The Germans received enthusiastic support from most of the population, and Austria was incorporated into Germany the next day. In April, this German annexation was retroactively approved in a plebiscite manipulated to indicate that about 99 percent of the Austrian people wanted the union (known as the Anschluss) with Germany. Neither Jews nor Roma (Gypsies) were allowed to vote in the plebiscite.

Widespread antisemitic actions and political violence followed quickly on the heels of the Anschluss. Austria’s leading politicians were imprisoned, and anyone opposing Nazi rule was subject to arrest, torture, and death. Jews particularly were attacked and humiliated on the streets. The Gestapo, along with Austrian Nazis and sympathizers, looted Jewish belongings, seized Jewish businesses, and arrested those who refused to surrender their property. Furthermore, the Nazis applied German anti-Jewish legislation almost immediately, forcing Jews from their positions, and essentially expelling them from the country’s economic, social, and cultural life. At the time of the Anschluss, Austria had a Jewish population of about 192,000, representing almost 4 percent of the total population. Tens of thousands fled Nazi persecution, and by December 1939 only 57,000 Jews remained in Austria.

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

March 11-31, 1938
News articles editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons regarding the annexation of Austria.

February 11, 1938 – March 11, 1938
News articles, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor and cartoons regarding events leading up to the German annexation of Austria.

April 1938
News articles about the plebiscite (vote) validating the Anschluss.

March 1938 – October 1938
News articles, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons regarding the persecution and abuse of Jews and political opposition figures in German-annexed Austria, as well as the emigration of Jews and other refugees from Germany and Austria.

Keywords
Austria, Anschluss, plebiscite, annex, annexation, Seyss-Inquart, Schuschnigg, Hitler, Nazi, Vienna, refugees, Jews, Jewish
EVIAN CONFERENCE OFFERS NEITHER HELP, NOR HAVEN

Between 1933 and 1941, the Nazis sought to make Germany judenrein (cleansed of Jews) by making life so difficult for the approximately 600,000 German Jews that they would be forced to leave the country. By 1938, about 150,000 German Jews, one in four, had already left. After Germany annexed Austria in March 1938, an additional 185,000 Jews were brought under Nazi rule. Many German and Austrian Jews who wanted to leave were unable to find countries willing to take them in. A substantial percentage tried to go to the United States but were unable to obtain the necessary immigration visas. The US Congress had established immigration quotas in 1924 that limited the number of immigrants and discriminated against groups considered racially and ethnically undesirable.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, responding to mounting political pressure, called for an international conference to facilitate the emigration of refugees from Germany and Austria, and to establish an international organization to work for an overall solution to the refugee problem. From July 6–15, 1938, delegates from 32 countries met at the French resort of Evian on Lake Geneva. Roosevelt chose Myron C. Taylor, a businessman and close friend, to represent the United States at the conference. During the nine-day meeting, delegate after delegate rose to express sympathy for the refugees. But most countries, including the United States and Britain, offered excuses for not letting in more refugees. Only the Dominican Republic agreed to accept additional refugees.

The conference attendees created the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees (ICR), charged with approaching "the governments of the countries of refuge with a view to developing opportunities for permanent settlement" and seeking to persuade Germany to cooperate in establishing "conditions of orderly emigration." The ICR received little authority and virtually no funds or other support from its member nations. Its achievements were minimal before the beginning of World War II in September 1939 largely ended all efforts.

Widespread racial prejudices among Americans—including antisemitic attitudes held by US State Department officials—played a part in the failure to admit more refugees. In the midst of the Great Depression, many Americans also believed that refugees would compete with them for jobs and overburden social programs set up to assist the needy.
EVIAN CONFERENCE OFFERS NEITHER HELP, NOR HAVEN

How To Frame Your Research

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July 6-16, 1938
News articles about the Evian Conference.

July 6-31, 1938
Editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and political cartoons reacting to the Evian Conference and the refugee crisis.

April 1938 – June 1938
News articles, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and political cartoons responding to the increasing refugee crisis spurred by the German annexation of Austria.

Keywords
Evian, refugee, alien, emigration, immigration, quota, Jews, Nazi, German, Roosevelt, Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees
ANTI-JEWISH RIOTS CONVULSE GERMAN REICH (KRISTALLNACHT)

On November 9-10, 1938, violence against Jews broke out across the Reich. It appeared to be unplanned, set off by Germans' anger over the assassination of Ernst vom Rath, a German embassy official in Paris at the hands of Herschel Grynszpan, a Jewish teenager. In fact, German propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels and other Nazis carefully organized the pogroms. Regional Party leaders issued instructions to their local offices, and during the following two days, Nazis and their collaborators burned over 250 synagogues, trashed and looted over 7,000 Jewish businesses, killed dozens of Jewish people, and looted Jewish cemeteries, hospitals, schools, and homes while police and fire brigades stood by.

As the violence spread, units of the SS and Gestapo arrested 30,000 German Jewish men and transferred most of them from local prisons to Dachau, Buchenwald, Sachsenhausen, and other concentration camps, where hundreds died from the brutal treatment they endured.

The German government pronounced that “the Jews” themselves were to blame for the pogrom and on November 12, 1938, imposed a punitive fine of one billion Reichsmark (some 400 million US dollars at 1938 rates) on the German Jewish community. The Reich government confiscated all insurance payouts to Jews whose businesses and homes were looted or destroyed, leaving the Jewish owners personally responsible for the cost of all repairs.

In the weeks that followed, the German government promulgated dozens of laws and decrees designed to deprive Jews of their property and of their means of livelihood even as the intensification of government persecution sought to force Jews from public life and out of the country. Indeed, the effects of Kristallnacht spurred mass emigration of Jews from Germany in the months that followed.

The pogroms became known as Kristallnacht, the "Night of Broken Glass," for the shattered glass from store windows that littered the streets.
ANTI-JEWISH RIOTS CONVULSE GERMAN REICH (KRISTALLNACHT)

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

November 10-13, 1938
News articles about Kristallnacht.

November 11-30, 1938
Editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons reacting to Kristallnacht and its aftermath.

October 28, 1938 – November 9, 1938
News, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons reacting to European events leading up to Kristallnacht.

Keywords
Pogrom, riot, synagogues, Jews, Reich, Germany, anti-Jewish, Nazi, Ernst vom Rath, Herschel Grynszpan, concentration camps, SS, SA, brownshirts, Goebbels, Hitler, Berlin, Vienna, Austria, Goering, Goring, Gestapo, Dachau, Buchenwald, Sachsenhausen
FATHER COUGHLIN BLAMES JEWS FOR NAZI VIOLENCE

Father Charles Coughlin, was a Canadian-born Catholic priest assigned to a parish in Michigan. Coughlin was antisemitic, anti-Communist, and isolationist. Throughout the 1930s, he was one of the most influential men in the United States. A new post office was constructed in his Michigan town just to process the letters that he received each week—80,000 on average. The audience of his weekly radio broadcasts was in the tens of millions, and his journal Social Justice eventually reached one million subscribers.

By the mid-1930s, Coughlin had become a vocal critic of the Roosevelt administration, and he attacked Jews explicitly in his broadcasts. In the days and weeks after Kristallnacht, Coughlin defended the state-sponsored violence of the Nazi regime, arguing that Kristallnacht was justified as retaliation for Jewish persecution of Christians. He explained to his listeners on November 20, 1938, that the “communistic government of Russia,” “the Lenins and Trotskys,... atheistic Jews and Gentiles” had murdered more than 20 million Christians and had stolen “40 billion [dollars]...of Christian property.” Following this broadcast, several radio stations refused to broadcast his program without pre-approved scripts. A few stations in New York cancelled his programs.

By the late 1930s, Coughlin began to promote fascist dictatorship and authoritarian government as the only cure to the ills of democracy and capitalism. The Roosevelt administration decided that, because the radio spectrum was a "limited national resource" and regulated as a publicly owned commons, broadcasting was not afforded full protections under the First Amendment. In October 1939, the Code Committee of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) enacted new limitations on the sale of radio time to 'spokesmen of controversial public issues.' Manuscripts now had to be submitted in advance, and radio stations were threatened with the loss of licenses if they failed to comply. As a result, on September 23, 1940, Coughlin announced in Social Justice that he had been forced from the air.
FATHER COUGHLIN BLAMES JEWS FOR NAZI VIOLENCE

How To Frame Your Research

Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

November 21-28, 1938
News articles about Father Coughlin’s response to Kristallnacht.

November 21, 1938 – December 31, 1938
News, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons reacting to Father Coughlin’s response to Kristallnacht.

October – November 1939
News, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons responding to the Code Committee of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) rules limiting the sale of radio time to 'spokesmen of controversial public issues'.

Keywords
Coughlin, Social Justice, Anti-Semitism, antisemitism, Jews, Code Committee, NAB, National Association of Broadcasters, Cardinal Mundelein, radio, station, broadcast, Catholic, priest
MARIAN ANDERSON PERFORMS AT THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL

Marian Anderson was a premier concert singer of the 20th century. Still, like all African Americans in the 1930s, she faced racial discrimination as she traveled throughout the United States.

Beginning in 1936, Anderson sang an annual concert to benefit the Howard University School of Music in Washington, DC. In January 1939, Howard University asked the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) for Anderson to perform in their Washington, DC, venue, Constitution Hall, before an integrated audience.

At the time, Washington, DC, was still racially segregated, and the DAR was an all-white heritage association. Only whites were allowed to perform on the Constitution Hall stage, and black concertgoers were seated in a segregated section of the hall.

The organizers of Marian Anderson’s 1939 concert hoped that her fame and reputation might result in an exception to the DAR’s discriminatory policy, but their request was denied. Pressure mounted from the press, other artists, and politicians. Several prominent civil rights and labor organizations, including the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, the American Federation of Labor, and the National Negro Congress, formed a new organization called the Marian Anderson Citizens Committee (MACC) to pressure the DAR. Still, the DAR did not relent.

In protest, on February 26, 1939, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt submitted her letter of resignation to the DAR president, and on February 27, 1939, Roosevelt addressed the issue in her My Day column, published in newspapers across the country. She did not mention the DAR or Anderson by name, but she simply stated, “To remain as a member implies approval of that action, therefore I am resigning.”

Roosevelt’s resignation propelled Marian Anderson and the subject of racism to the center of national attention. As word of her resignation spread, Roosevelt and others quietly worked behind the scenes promoting the idea of an outdoor concert at the symbolically important Lincoln Memorial.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt gave his approval, and on April 9, 1939, Easter Sunday, a diverse crowd of 75,000 people attended the outdoor concert. Hundreds of thousands more heard the concert over the radio. After being introduced by Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes, who declared that “genius knows no color line,” Anderson opened her concert with My Country, 'Tis of Thee (America). With tears in her eyes, she closed the concert with an encore, Nobody Knows the Trouble I’ve Seen.

The DAR’s refusal to grant Marian Anderson the use of Constitution Hall, Eleanor Roosevelt’s resignation from the DAR in protest, and the resulting concert at the Lincoln Memorial combined into a significant moment in civil rights history that focused national attention on American racial discrimination as few events had previously done.
MARIAN ANDERSON PERFORMS AT THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

February 27, 1939 – April 1, 1939
News articles about the DAR’s refusal to allow Marian Anderson to perform at Constitution Hall, and Eleanor Roosevelt’s column, “My Day.”

April 9-21, 1939
News articles, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and political cartoons regarding Marian Anderson’s performance at the Lincoln Memorial.

January 1939 - April 1939
News articles, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and political cartoons regarding the controversy surrounding the DAR’s refusal to allow Marian Anderson to perform at Constitution Hall.

Keywords
Marian Anderson, Eleanor Roosevelt, Constitution Hall, DAR, Daughters of the American Revolution, Lincoln Memorial, Harold Ickes
JEWISH REFUGEES DESPERATELY SEEK SAFE HARBOR

On May 13, 1939, the German transatlantic liner *St. Louis* sailed from Hamburg, Germany, for Havana, Cuba. On the voyage were 937 passengers. Most were Jewish refugees who had applied for US visas, and had planned to stay in Cuba only until they could enter the United States. All passengers held landing certificates permitting them entry to Cuba, but unknown to the passengers, Cuban President Federico Laredo Bru had issued a decree just a week before the ship sailed that invalidated their documents.

When the *St. Louis* reached Havana on May 27, 1939, the *St. Louis* passengers were not permitted to leave the ship. Fewer than 30 passengers met the new visa requirement and were allowed to enter Cuba. The ship remained anchored in the Havana harbor for six days in the hope that the refugees would eventually be allowed to land. On June 2, 1939, the Cuban president insisted that the *St. Louis* leave. The ship headed north, so close to Florida that the passengers could see the lights of Miami. Some passengers cabled President Franklin D. Roosevelt asking for refuge. The President never responded. The State Department and the White House had decided not to take extraordinary measures to permit the refugees to enter the United States. US diplomats in Havana intervened once more with the Cuban government to admit the passengers on a "humanitarian" basis, but without success.

On June 6, 1939, the *St. Louis* was forced to turn back to Europe. Belgium, the Netherlands, England, and France agreed to admit the passengers, and on June 17, 1939, the *St. Louis* docked in Antwerp, Belgium. But within months, the Germans overran western Europe. Hundreds of passengers who disembarked in Belgium, the Netherlands, and France eventually fell victim to the Nazi "Final Solution."

The voyage of the *St. Louis* attracted a great deal of media attention. After Cuba denied entry to the passengers on the *St. Louis*, the press throughout Europe and the Americas, including the United States, brought the story to millions of readers throughout the world.

The *St. Louis* was one of several ships carrying desperate refugees fleeing Nazi Germany in 1939 and 1940. Two smaller ships carrying Jewish refugees had also sailed to Cuba in May 1939—a French ship, the *Flandre*, and a British vessel, the *Orduña*. Like the *St. Louis*, these ships were not permitted to dock in Havana. The *Flandre* turned back to its point of departure in France, while the *Orduña* proceeded to a series of Latin American ports. Its passengers finally disembarked in the US-controlled Canal Zone in Panama, and the United States eventually admitted most of them.
JEWISH REFUGEES DESPERATELY SEEK SAFE HARBOR

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

May 27, 1939 – June 2, 1939
News articles, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and political cartoons about the plight of passengers on the St. Louis.

June 2-13, 1939
News articles, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and political cartoons about Cuba and the United States turning away the St. Louis.

May 1939 - June 1939
News articles, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and political cartoons about the refugee ships Flandre and Orduña.

Keywords
Cuba, St. Louis, refugee, Jews, Jewish, alien, visa, landing certificate, Flandre, Orduña
**CHILD REFUGEE BILL FAILS IN SENATE**

The German annexation of Austria in March 1938, followed by the anti-Jewish violence of *Kristallnacht* in November 1938, spawned a flood of refugees from the Greater German Reich. In response, President *Roosevelt* combined the German and Austrian quotas, and for the first and only time the full quota was admitted: 27,300 Germans and Austrians, mostly *Jewish refugees*, entered the United States in 1939. By this time, however, with hundreds of thousands of Reich Jews desperately clamoring for a US *visa*, the *quota* was not nearly adequate to meet the demand.

On *February 9, 1939*, *Senator Robert Wagner* of New York and *Representative Edith Rogers* of Massachusetts introduced a bill to permit the entry of 20,000 *refugee children*, ages 14 and under, from the Greater German Reich into the United States over the course of two years (1939 and 1940). The children would have been granted entry without reference to the existing quota system.

Charity organizations across the country publicized the plight of German refugee children in an attempt to gain support for the Wagner-Rogers “*child refugee*” bill. However, organizations favoring *restrictive immigration* strongly opposed the bill and claimed that the refugee children would deprive American children of aid. Congressional opponents of the bill introduced legislation that would reduce, rather than increase, the quota. And they amended the Wagner-Rogers Bill to count refugee children against the existing German quota, nullifying the bill’s impact. Roosevelt took no action, and after several months of debate, the bill died in the Senate Immigration Committee during *the first week of July 1939*.

**How To Frame Your Research**

Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

**February 9-16, 1939**

News articles about the Wagner-Rogers bill’s introduction in Congress.

**June 30 1939 – July 6, 1939**

News articles about the Wagner-Rogers Bill stalling in the Senate Immigration Committee.

**February – July 1939**

News articles, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons about the Wagner-Rogers bill.

**Keywords**

Wagner-Rogers, refugee, quota, immigration, German, Jews, Jewish, Senate, Robert Wagner, Edith Rogers, alien, children

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**HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM**

**HISTORY UNFOLDÉD**

US NEWSPAPERS AND THE HOLOCAUST
FDR SIGNS SELECTIVE TRAINING AND SERVICE ACT

On September 1, 1939, Germany invaded Poland, precipitating (starting) World War II. Britain, France, Australia, and New Zealand declared war on Germany two days later. In April and May 1940, Germany invaded Denmark, Norway, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and France. However, the United States maintained its neutrality.

The United States had a small military that was unprepared to fight what would become a global war. Many Americans were isolationists and wanted to avoid international entanglements. Nonetheless, by 1940, many in the public and in the government had concluded that the United States would eventually be drawn into conflict with the Axis powers, and support for American intervention on behalf of European democracies was growing.

On September 6, 1940, Congress passed the Selective Training and Service Act, and on September 16, 1940, President Roosevelt signed it into law. Also known as the Burke-Wadsworth Act, the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 required that men between the ages of 21 and 35 register with local draft boards. It was the first time in US history that the country had begun mobilizing an army while still at peace. Later, when the US entered World War II, all men aged 18 to 45 were subject to military service, and all men aged 18 to 65 were required to register. By the end of World War II, 50 million men between eighteen and forty-five had registered for the draft and 10 million had been inducted into the military.

How To Frame Your Research

Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

September 6-17, 1940
News articles about passage of the Selective Training and Service Act.

September 1940 – October 1940
Editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons reacting to passage of the Selective Training and Service Act.

Keywords
Selective Service, draft, conscription, recruiting, Burke-Wadsworth, Senate, House, Congress, president, Roosevelt, military service, registration, Willkie, isolationist
CONGRESS PASSES LEND-LEASE ACT

After the fall of France and the evacuation of Allied forces from Dunkirk, Nazi Germany controlled western Europe. Great Britain stood largely alone in the summer of 1940, facing isolation and possible defeat. The fall of Britain could have resulted in German control of the north Atlantic. The need to rapidly rebuild the British armed forces was imperative, but Britain no longer had the financial resources needed to acquire vital war materiel or the means to get it safely to its destination.

Acting without prior announcement to the US Congress, in September 1940, President Franklin D. Roosevelt gave the Royal Navy 50 outdated US destroyers in an effort to assist British convoys that were transferring war materiel acquired in the United States through the north Atlantic Ocean. In return, Britain gave the US a number of long-term leases for naval and air bases in various British colonies in the Caribbean, Newfoundland, Bermuda, and elsewhere.

On December 17, 1940, Roosevelt proposed a bill to allow the United States to "manufacture, sell, lend, transfer, lease, or exchange" weapons with any country that "the President deems vital for the defense of the United States." The bill, introduced in Congress on January 10, 1941 as HR 1776, raised a storm of controversy between supporters of intervention and isolationists, who saw this as a first step toward US participation in the war. Knowing that Americans were leery of being drawn into another European conflict, British Prime Minister Winston S. Churchill famously exclaimed, "give us the tools and we shall finish the job." Despite strong protests from isolationists, including Father Charles E. Coughlin, the Lend-Lease Act passed both houses of Congress by wide margins, clearing the Senate on March 8, 1941. President Roosevelt signed it into law on March 11.

The program was repeatedly renewed by Congress throughout the war and cemented the role of the United States as the arsenal of democracy. US industrial strength proved to be the decisive weapon of World War II.

How To Frame Your Research

Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

January 1941 – March 1941
News articles, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and political cartoons about Congressional testimony and debate on the Lend-Lease Act.

March 8-18, 1941
News articles about the passage of the Lend-Lease Act.

March 11-31, 1941
Editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and political cartoons regarding passage of the Lend-Lease Act.

Keywords
Lend-Lease, HR 1776, Arsenal of Democracy, Roosevelt, Churchill, Britain, Congress, isolationist
GERMAN GOVERNMENT FORCES JEWS TO WEAR YELLOW STARS

The Nazis in Germany and throughout German-occupied Europe implemented the yellow star as a means to publicly identify, humiliate, and isolate Jews. In many cases, this public identification and stigmatization preceded the mass deportations of Jews to ghettos and killing sites.

On September 1, 1941, the Reich Minister of the Interior decreed that Jews over the age of six in the Greater German Reich were required to wear a yellow Star of David on their outer clothing in public at all times. While ghettos were generally not established in Germany, strict residence regulations forced Jews to live in designated areas of German cities, concentrating them in “Jewish houses” (“Judenhäuser”).

Within Germany, the sight of neighbors forced to wear the yellow badge often elicited sympathy from non-Jewish Germans. This response was widespread enough that the Ministry of Propaganda and Enlightenment felt compelled to issue pamphlets instructing Germans on how they should respond when encountering neighbors wearing the yellow star.

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

September 1941
News articles about the requirement that German Jews wear a yellow star on the clothing.

September 1941 - November 1941
Editorials, op-eds, letters to editor and cartoons reacting to the edict that German Jews wear a yellow star on their clothing.

Keywords
Yellow star, star of David, six-pointed, Jewish, Nazi, Germany, segregation, discrimination, ghetto
CHARLES LINDBERGH MAKES "UN-AMERICAN" SPEECH

In the 1930s, celebrated aviator Charles Lindbergh was one of America’s best known heroes, famous for his daring solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean in 1927. However, by 1940, at a time when many Americans feared being drawn into another world war, Lindbergh was also known as a spokesman for the America First Committee isolationist movement.

On September 11, 1941, Lindbergh delivered a speech in Des Moines, Iowa, in which he identified groups that he believed were conspiring to force the U.S. into war against Germany: "The three most important groups who have been pressing this country toward war are the British, the Jewish [sic] and the Roosevelt Administration."

The speech was criticized in newspapers across the country, and politicians across the political spectrum denounced it. Wendell Willkie, the GOP presidential candidate in 1940, called it “the most un-American talk made in my time by any person of national reputation.” President Roosevelt remained silent, but the White House press secretary released a statement noting a “striking similarity” between what Lindbergh said and “the outpourings of Berlin in the last few days.” Many people denounced Lindbergh as an antisemite, and the controversy surrounding his speech irreparably damaged the isolationist cause.

Within three months, however, the question of war was moot. Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and Germany declared war on the United States four days later. Lindbergh remained silent in public throughout America’s involvement in the war.

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

September 11-18, 1941
News articles about Charles Lindbergh’s speech in Des Moines.

September-October 1941
Editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons reacting to Charles Lindbergh’s speech in Des Moines.

September-October 1941
News articles about the reactions of leaders, politicians, and the public to Charles Lindbergh’s speech in Des Moines.

Keywords
Lindbergh, Lindy, Jews, British, Roosevelt, plot, isolationist, anti-semitic, antisemitic, Jewish, Britain, America First, Des Moines, Iowa
FDR AUTHORIZES INCARCERATION OF JAPANESE AMERICANS

Between 1861 and 1940, approximately 275,000 Japanese immigrated to Hawaii and the mainland United States.

When the Empire of Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, lobbyists from western states, many representing competing economic interests or nativist groups, pressured Congress and the President to remove persons of Japanese descent from the west coast, both foreign born (issei – meaning “first generation” of Japanese in the US) and American citizens (nisei – the second generation of Japanese in America and US citizens by birth) under the pretext that they were a national security threat. During Congressional committee hearings, Department of Justice representatives raised constitutional and ethical objections to the proposal. As a result, the US Army, rather than civilian law enforcement, carried out the task. On February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 authorizing exclusion, and Congress implemented the order on March 21, 1942, by passing Public Law 503.

The West Coast was divided into military zones. After encouraging voluntary evacuation of the areas, the Western Defense Command began involuntary removal and detention of West Coast residents of Japanese ancestry. During the next six months, approximately 120,000 men, women, and children were moved to assembly centers. They were then evacuated to and confined in isolated, fenced, and guarded camps, euphemistically known as "relocation centers." The ten relocation centers were in remote areas in six western states and Arkansas: Heart Mountain in Wyoming, Tule Lake and Manzanar in California, Topaz in Utah, Poston and Gila River in Arizona, Granada in Colorado, Minidoka in Idaho, and Jerome and Rowher in Arkansas.

Nearly 70,000 of the evacuees were American citizens. The government made no charges against them, nor could they appeal their incarceration. All lost personal liberties; most lost homes and property as well. Although several Japanese Americans challenged the government’s actions in court cases, the Supreme Court upheld their legality. Nisei were nevertheless encouraged to serve in the armed forces, and some were even drafted. Altogether, more than 30,000 Japanese Americans served with distinction during World War II in segregated units.
FDR AUTHORIZES INCARCERATION OF JAPANESE AMERICANS

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

February 19 - 26, 1942
News articles about President Roosevelt issuing Executive Order 9066.

February 20, 1942 - May 1942
News, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons reacting to Executive Order 9066 and the proposed evacuation and incarceration of Japanese Americans.

December 1941 - February 1942
Editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons arguing for or against evacuation and incarceration of Japanese Americans.

August 7 - 21, 1942
News, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons regarding the forced evacuation and incarceration of Japanese Americans.

Keywords
Executive Order 9066, Japanese, Jap*, alien, Roosevelt, military zone, West coast, General John DeWitt, evacuation, relocation, relocation center, detention, internment [*NOTE: The derogatory epithet "Jap" was widely used by American newspapers in both headlines and the body of articles.]
POLICE ROUND UP PARIS JEWS - DEPORTATIONS FEARED

The Vélodrome d'Hiver (or "Vél d'Hiv") roundup was the largest French deportation of Jews during the Holocaust. It took place in German-occupied Paris on July 16–17, 1942.

In order to guarantee the participation of the French police in the roundups, Nazi officials agreed to focus on foreign and stateless Jews, thus initially sparing the French Jewish population from deportation. Beginning in the early hours of July 16, French police rounded up thousands of men, women, and children throughout Paris. By the end of the day, the police had taken 2,573 men, 5,165 women, and 3,625 children from their homes. The roundup continued the following day, but with a much smaller number of arrests.

Approximately 6,000 of those rounded up were immediately transported to Drancy, in the northern suburbs of Paris. Drancy was at that point a transit camp for Jews being deported from France. The rest of the arrestees were detained at the Vélodrome d'Hiver (Winter Cycling Track), an indoor sporting arena in Paris's 15th arrondissement. Some 7,000 Jews, among them almost 4,000 children, were crowded together in the sports arena. There was scarcely space to lie down and the incarcerated Jews faced appalling circumstances. No arrangements had been made for food, water, or sanitary facilities. Only two physicians a shift were allowed in to treat the internees. The glass ceiling of the arena contributed to a stifling environment by day, as all ventilation had been sealed to prevent escape, and led to chilly temperatures at night.

After five days, Jews incarcerated at the Vél d'Hiv were transferred to other transit camps outside Paris, including Drancy, from which they were transported to concentration camps and killing centers in the east. At the end of July, the remaining adults were separated from their children and deported to Auschwitz. Over 3,000 children remained interned without their parents until they were also deported, among adult strangers, to Auschwitz.

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

July 16 - 24, 1942
News articles about the Vél d'Hiv roundup.

July 1942 - August 1942
News articles, editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and political cartoons about the deportation of Jews from German-occupied northern France.

Keywords
Vélodrome d'Hiver, Vél d'Hiv, Paris, France, French, Jews, roundup, Drancy, deportation
NAZI PLAN TO KILL ALL JEWS CONFIRMED

Information about Nazi atrocities against Jews leaked out of Europe; fragmentary reports of mass killings had appeared in the US press in 1941. In May 1942, the Polish-Jewish underground smuggled out a report, which estimated that 700,000 Polish Jews had already been killed by the Germans. The report was broadcast over the BBC on June 2, 1942. In August 1942, the US State Department received a report from a World Jewish Congress representative in Geneva, Switzerland, that the Germans were implementing a policy to murder the Jews of Europe. The same report was cabled to Rabbi Stephen Wise, president of the World Jewish Congress, but the State Department requested that Wise not go public with the information until they could confirm its general accuracy.

Three months later, the State Department confirmed this information from independent sources, and on November 24, 1942, Rabbi Wise held a press conference to publicize the news, appealing to President Roosevelt to stop the murderous plan. Two weeks later, the Polish government-in-exile sent a report, titled The Mass Extermination of Jews in German Occupied Poland, to the Allied governments urging the world to “draw the appropriate conclusions.”

On December 17, 1942, the United States, Great Britain, and ten other Allied governments issued a Joint Declaration by Members of the United Nations denouncing Nazi Germany’s implementation of “Hitler's oft-repeated intention to exterminate the Jewish people in Europe” and promising retribution for those responsible.

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

November 24-26, 1942
News articles about Rabbi Wise’s public statement regarding the Nazi plan to annihilate the Jews of Europe.

November 25 - December 25, 1942
News, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons reacting to the Nazi plan to annihilate the Jews of Europe.

Keywords
Jews, Jewish, Rabbi Stephen Wise, Germany, Nazi, Hitler, exterminate, extermination, slaughter, World Jewish Congress
ALLIES DENOUNCE NAZI PLAN TO “EXTERMINATE” THE JEWISH

In August 1942, the US State Department received a report from a World Jewish Congress representative in Geneva, Switzerland, that the Germans were implementing a policy to murder the Jews of Europe. Three months later, the State Department confirmed this information from independent sources, and on November 24, 1942, Rabbi Stephen Wise, president of the World Jewish Congress, held a press conference to publicize the news, appealing to President Roosevelt to stop the murderous plan. Two weeks later, the Polish government-in-exile sent a report, titled *The Mass Extermination of Jews in German Occupied Poland*, to the Allied governments urging the world to “draw the appropriate conclusions.”

On **December 17, 1942**, the United States, Great Britain, and ten other Allied governments issued a **Joint Declaration by Members of the United Nations** denouncing Nazi Germany’s implementation of “Hitler’s oft-repeated intention to exterminate the Jewish people in Europe.” The declaration warned that “those responsible for these crimes shall not escape retribution.”

**How To Frame Your Research**
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

**December 17-18, 1942**
News articles about the Allies announcement that they would hold German leaders responsible for policies of extermination.

**December 17-31, 1942**
Editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons reacting to the Allies announcement that they would hold German leaders responsible for policies of extermination.

**Keywords**
Jews, Jewish, Germany, Nazi, Hitler, exterminate, extermination, retribution, United Nations, Roosevelt, Allies, Allied, condemn, punish, slaughter, massacre, declaration
"WE WILL NEVER DIE"

In early 1943, a Gallup poll asked Americans: "It is said that two million Jews have been killed in Europe since the war began. Do you think this is true or just a rumor?" Although the Allied leadership had publicly confirmed that two million Jews had been murdered, the poll found that only 47 percent of respondents believed it was true, while 29 percent dismissed it as a rumor; the remaining 24 percent had no opinion.

Ben Hecht, the newspaper columnist and Academy Award-winning screenwriter (Gone with the Wind, The Front Page, Scarface), responded the only way he knew how: He picked up his pen and began to write. Determined to alert the American public to the Nazi slaughter of the Jews, Hecht authored a dramatic pageant that he called We Will Never Die.

Working with Peter Bergson (real name: Hillel Kook), a Zionist emissary from Palestine who had established a political action committee to lobby in Washington, Hecht secured support for the project in Hollywood and on Broadway. Edward G. Robinson, Paul Muni, Sylvia Sydney, and Luther Adler starred in We Will Never Die. Moss Hart directed it, and Kurt Weill composed an original score for the event. Local stars took part when the pageant was staged in various cities. With its cast of hundreds, We Will Never Die would be an extraordinary production in every sense of the word.

We Will Never Die debuted to audiences of more than 40,000 in two shows at Madison Square Garden on March 9 and March 10, 1943. The event received substantial media coverage, carrying its message to audiences well beyond those who actually attended the pageant.

During the spring and summer of 1943, Peter Bergson's group intensified its campaign of newspaper ads, public rallies, and lobbying on Capitol Hill. It also continued to stage We Will Never Die in five major cities.

- **Washington, DC, Constitution Hall (April 12, 1943).** First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, six justices of the Supreme Court, more than two hundred members of Congress, and numerous members of the international diplomatic corps were in attendance. Mrs. Roosevelt was so moved by the performance that she devoted part of her next syndicated column, "My Day," to the pageant and the plight of Europe's Jews.
- **Philadelphia, Convention Hall (April 22, 1943).** Claude Rains and Edward G. Arnold performed the lead roles. It was the largest Jewish public event in the city in many years.
- **Chicago, The Stadium (May 19, 1943).** John Garfield and Burgess Meredith performed the lead roles. An estimated 20,000 people attended.
- **Boston, The Garden (June 6, 1943).** Ralph Bellamy, Lionel Atwill, and Howard Da Silva had prominent roles.
- **Los Angeles, The Hollywood Bowl (July 21, 1943).** The climactic performance included an audience of prominent Californians, among them Governor Earl Warren, Bishop W. Bertrand Stevens, and numerous Hollywood actors, writers, and producers.
"WE WILL NEVER DIE"

The same week that *We Will Never Die* was performed in Philadelphia, representatives of the American and British governments were meeting in Bermuda to discuss the Jewish refugee problem. Despite 12 days of discussions, the conference produced no concrete plans for rescue. This lack of action aroused outrage throughout the American Jewish community and on Capitol Hill.

Capitalizing on publicity from *We Will Never Die*, newspaper ads, and other protest activities, Peter Bergson persuaded leading members of Congress, in October 1943, to introduce a resolution urging the creation of a US government agency to rescue Jewish refugees. It quickly passed the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and was the subject of hearings before the House Foreign Affairs Committee. The hearings on the rescue resolution set off a firestorm of controversy when a State Department official presented testimony that wildly exaggerated the number of refugees who had already been permitted to enter the United States.

Meanwhile, just as the refugee controversy was making headlines, a group of senior aides to Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau, Jr., were uncovering a pattern of attempts by the State Department to obstruct rescue opportunities and block the flow of Holocaust information to the United States. Armed with this information, Morgenthau went to the president in January 1944 to warn him that the refugee issue had become "a boiling pot on [Capitol] Hill" and Congress was likely to pass the rescue resolution unless the White House acted. Roosevelt pre-empted Congress by establishing the new agency that the resolution had sought—the War Refugee Board.
“WE WILL NEVER DIE”

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

March 9–17, 1943
News articles, editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and cartoons regarding the New York performance at Madison Square Garden.

April 12–20, 1943
News articles, editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and cartoons regarding the Washington, DC, performance at Constitution Hall.

April 22–30, 1943
News articles, editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and cartoons regarding the Philadelphia performance at the Convention Hall.

May 19–27, 1943
News articles, editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and cartoons regarding the Chicago performance in the Stadium.

June 6–14, 1943
News articles, editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and cartoons regarding the Boston performance at the Garden.

July 21–29, 1943
News articles, editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and cartoons regarding the Los Angeles performance at the Hollywood Bowl.

October 1943–January 1944
News articles, editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and cartoons regarding the Congressional testimony and debates, as well as the eventual passage of a Congressional resolution calling for US government action to rescue European Jews.

Keywords
We Will Never Die, Hecht, Bergson, Edward G. Robinson, Paul Muni, Kurt Weill, Moss Hart, Madison Square Garden, Eleanor Roosevelt, Claude Rains, Edward G. Arnold, John Garfield, Burgess Meredith, Ralph Bellamy, Lionel Atwill
WARSAW Ghetto Jews Revolt

In the summer of 1942, about 300,000 Jews were deported from Warsaw to Treblinka. When reports of mass murder in the killing center leaked back to the Warsaw ghetto, a surviving group of mostly young people formed an organization called the Z.O.B. (for the Polish name, Zydowska Organizacja Bojowa, or Jewish Fighting Organization). The Z.O.B., led by 23-year-old Mordecai Anielewicz, issued a proclamation calling for the Jewish people to resist going to the railroad cars. In January 1943, Warsaw ghetto fighters fired upon German troops as they tried to round up another group of ghetto inhabitants for deportation. Fighters used a small supply of weapons that had been smuggled into the ghetto. After a few days, the troops retreated. This small victory inspired the ghetto fighters to prepare for future resistance.

On April 19, 1943, the Warsaw ghetto uprising began after German troops and police entered the ghetto to deport its surviving inhabitants. Seven hundred and fifty fighters fought the heavily armed and well-trained Germans. The ghetto fighters were able to hold out for nearly a month, but on May 16, 1943, the revolt ended. The Germans had slowly crushed the resistance. Of the more than 56,000 Jews captured, about 7,000 were shot, and those who remained were deported to camps.

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

April 19, 1943 - May 16, 1943
News articles about the Warsaw ghetto uprising and destruction of the ghetto.

April 1943 - June 1943
News, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons reacting to the Warsaw ghetto uprising and destruction of the ghetto.

September 1943 - November 1943
News, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons reacting to the Warsaw ghetto uprising and destruction of the ghetto.

Keywords
Warsaw ghetto, Jews, Nazi, German, uprising, revolt, resistance, battle, massacre, deported, Treblinka
PRESIDENT ESTABLISHES WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Between 1942 and 1943, increased public knowledge about Nazi atrocities against Jews in Europe prompted various groups -- both in the government and in the public sphere -- to devise rescue proposals. Public pressure rose, thanks in part to the agitation of a group of Palestinian Jews led by Peter Bergson (pseudonym for Hillel Kook). In the summer of 1943, the group formed the Emergency Committee to Save the Jews of Europe. They took out full-page advertisements in major newspapers and sponsored events to raise awareness of the ongoing mass murder of the Jews of Europe and to condemn what its members perceived to be the inaction of the United States, particularly the State Department.

Members of Congress who supported recommendations of the Emergency Committee sponsored identical resolutions in the House of Representatives and the Senate in November 1943. The bill, which became known as the “Rescue Resolution,” challenged Roosevelt to establish an agency specifically for the purpose of devising and enacting plans to rescue the Jews of Europe.

In January 1944, the leadership of the U.S. Treasury Department -- Secretary Henry Morgenthau, Assistant Secretary John Pehle, and Randolph Paul -- met with President Roosevelt to rebuke the State Department for its perceived obstruction of rescue efforts. They urged the President to establish a government agency to coordinate the rescue of Europe’s Jews. On January 22, 1944, Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9417, establishing the War Refugee Board (WRB). John Pehle was appointed as the WRB’s first director.” The Board was committed to enforcing the policies of the US government regarding the “immediate rescue and relief of the Jews of Europe and other victims of enemy persecution.” This included the establishment of safe havens, evacuation of endangered people from Nazi-occupied territories, and delivery of relief supplies into concentration camps. American diplomats in Europe were instructed to enforce all policies set forth in the Executive Order. During the last year of the war, the War Refugee Board provided relief to hundreds of thousands and played a crucial role in the rescue of tens of thousands of Jews.

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

January 22-29, 1944
News articles about the establishment of the War Refugee Board.

January 22, 1944 - May 1944
Editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons reacting to the creation of the War Refugee Board and its activities.

Keywords
War Refugee Board, refugees, Morgenthau, Pehle, Executive Order 9417, rescue, Roosevelt, Treasury, Jews, Nazi
DEPORTATION OF HUNGARIAN JEWS BEGINS

German forces occupied Hungary on March 19, 1944. In April 1944, Hungarian authorities ordered Hungarian Jews living outside Budapest (roughly 500,000) to concentrate in enclosed ghettos located in certain cities, usually regional government seats. Hungarian gendarmes were sent into the rural regions to round up Jews and dispatch them to the cities. None of these ghettos existed for more than a few weeks, and many were liquidated within days.

In mid-May 1944, the Hungarian authorities, in coordination with the German Security Police, began systematically to deport Hungarian Jews. SS Colonel Adolf Eichmann was chief of the team of "deportation experts" that worked with the Hungarian authorities. The Hungarian police carried out the roundups and forced the Jews onto deportation trains.

In less than two months, nearly 440,000 Jews were deported from Hungary in more than 145 trains. Most were deported to Auschwitz. Thousands were also sent to the border with Austria to dig fortification trenches.

In light of the worsening military situation and facing threats from Allied leaders of war crimes trials, the Hungarian Regent, Admiral Miklos Horthy, ordered a halt to the deportations on July 7, 1944. By that time, the only Jewish community left in Hungary was that of Budapest, the capital.

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

May 15 - July 7, 1944
News articles about the deportation of Hungarian Jews.

May 15, 1944 - December 31, 1944
News, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons reacting to the deportation of Hungarian Jews.

Keywords
Hungary, Hungarian, Jews, deportation, Auschwitz, Poland, Oswiecim
FDR SHELTERS REFUGEES IN OSWEGO, NY

On June 12, 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt announced his plan to create a free port for refugees at Fort Ontario in Oswego, New York. Under this plan, nearly 1,000 refugees—mostly Jews—were transported from Allied-liberated territory in northern Italy to an emergency shelter established by the War Refugee Board at Fort Ontario. Roosevelt circumvented the rigid immigration quotas by identifying these refugees as his "guests," but that status gave them no legal standing and required their return to Europe once conditions permitted their repatriation.

The refugees arrived at Fort Ontario in August 1944. Because of their undefined immigrant status, the refugees were not permitted to leave Fort Ontario, even to work or to visit family members already settled in the United States; though some refugee children were permitted to attend public schools outside the camp. They struggled to create a community within the camp, but the close quarters and their uncertain futures made for tense relations.

On September 20, 1944, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt made a well-publicized visit to the camp and, as she did so often to rally support for her husband's policies, wrote about the visit in her syndicated column, "My Day." The war came to an end, and since many of the refugees had family in the United States, they resisted repatriation to Europe. Advocates for the refugees continually lobbied Congress and the president to allow them to stay in America. Finally, after the refugees had spent 18 months in the camp, President Harry S Truman permitted their legal entry into the country. The camp closed a short time later in February 1946.
FDR SHELTERS REFUGEES IN OSWEGO, NY

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

June 12 - 20, 1944
News reports about Franklin D. Roosevelt's announcement that the War Refugee Board would create a refugee shelter at Fort Ontario.

June 14 - 30, 1944
Editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and political cartoons regarding the creation of a refugee shelter at Fort Ontario.

August 3 - 11, 1944
News reports about the arrival of refugees at Fort Ontario.

August 4 - 31, 1944
Editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and political cartoons regarding the arrival and condition of refugees at Fort Ontario.

September 20 - 28, 1944
News reports about Eleanor Roosevelt's visit to Fort Ontario and conditions in the camp.

September 21, 1944 - October 3, 1944
Editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and political cartoons regarding Eleanor Roosevelt's visit to Fort Ontario and conditions in the camp.

Keywords
Fort Ontario, Oswego, War Refugee Board, refugee
FIRST PUBLIC REPORTS ON
"EXTERMINATION CAMP" AT AUSCHWITZ

By 1943, Nazi atrocities against Jews in Europe had been widely reported, but it wasn’t until early 1944 that the Allies received increasingly explicit information about the process of mass murder by gassing carried out at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Between June 18 and June 22, 1944, media channels in Switzerland began a worldwide press campaign to publicize the Auschwitz Report, originally written by two Slovak Jewish prisoners following their escape from Auschwitz on April 7, 1944. The report provided some of the first reliable eyewitness accounts of the extermination camp, and detailed the process of selection and murder of Jews in the camp’s gas chambers. On November 26, 1944, the War Refugee Board released the full report to the American press in a deliberate effort to raise awareness and strengthen public support for rescue efforts.

At roughly the same time as the report’s release, between late April and early July 1944, approximately 426,000 Hungarian Jews were deported to Auschwitz, where the SS sent approximately 320,000 of them directly to the gas chambers.

How To Frame Your Research
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June 1944 - July 1944
News articles, editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons about a German extermination camp at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

November 26-28, 1944
News articles about the German extermination camp at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

November 27, 1944 - February 1945
Editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons reacting to news of a German extermination camp at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Keywords
Auschwitz, Birkenau, Oswiecim, Brzezinska, extermination camp, extermination, gas chamber, Jews, Nazi, death camp, murder camp, mass killing, massacre, Hungary, Hungarian, deported, Slovak, Swiss, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia
THE CRIME NOW HAS A NAME: GENOCIDE

Raphael Lemkin was a Polish-Jewish jurist who, as early as 1933, was working to introduce legal safeguards for ethnic, religious, and social groups at international forums, but without success. When the German Army invaded Poland in 1939, Lemkin escaped from Europe, eventually reaching safety in the United States, where he took up a teaching position at Duke University. He moved to Washington, DC, in the summer of 1942 to join the War Department as an analyst. He went on to document Nazi atrocities in his 1944 book, Axis Rule in Occupied Europe. In this text, he introduced the word “genocide.”

By “genocide” we mean the destruction of a nation or of an ethnic group. This new word, coined by the author to denote an old practice in its modern development, is made from the ancient Greek word genos (race, tribe) and the Latin cide (killing). Generally speaking, genocide does not necessarily mean the immediate destruction of a nation, except when accomplished by mass killings of all members of a nation. It is intended rather to signify a coordinated plan of different actions aiming at the destruction of essential foundations of the life of national groups, with the aim of annihilating the groups themselves. Genocide is directed against the national group as an entity, and the actions involved are directed against individuals, not in their individual capacity, but as members of the national group. (p. 80)

By December 1944, several newspapers in the United States had begun reporting on Lemkin’s use of the new word, “genocide,” to describe the Nazi policy of annihilation toward Europe’s Jews.

How To Frame Your Research
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December 1 - 31, 1944
News articles, editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and political cartoons regarding the publication of Raphael Lemkin’s "Axis Rule in Occupied Europe" and the word "genocide."

November 1945 - January 1946
News articles, editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and political cartoons referencing "genocide" as one of the crimes for which German leaders would be tried by the International Military Tribunal in Nuremberg.

Keywords
Genocide, Lemkin, Axis Rule in Occupied Europe
FDR DELIVERS HIS FOURTH INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Having been elected to an unprecedented fourth term, on January 20, 1945, a visibly ailing President Roosevelt delivered his inaugural address from the White House balcony to the American people who had just endured three years of war.

The liberation of Rome and the D-Day landings at Normandy had occurred the previous spring and, at the time of Roosevelt’s inauguration, the Allies had already liberated virtually all of France, most of Belgium, and part of southern Netherlands. In Poland, the Soviets had taken Warsaw and Krakow and laid siege to the Hungarian capital of Budapest. The German army was in full retreat and President Roosevelt turned his war-weary nation’s attention to the future and their role in ensuring a just, honorable, and lasting peace. Criticizing isolationists, he reminded the American people: “We have learned that we cannot live alone, at peace; that our own well-being is dependent on the well-being of other nations, far away…. We have learned to be citizens of the world, members of the human community.”

How To Frame Your Research
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January 20-22, 1945
News articles about President Roosevelt’s fourth inaugural address.

January 21-31, 1945
Editorials, op-eds, letters to the editor, and cartoons reacting to President Roosevelt’s fourth inaugural address.

Keywords
Roosevelt, president, inaugural, inauguration, address, speech, white house, fourth term, durable peace
EISENHOWER ASKS CONGRESS AND PRESS TO WITNESS NAZI HORRORS

In late 1944 and early 1945, as Allied troops defeated the German army and moved across Europe into Germany, they encountered tens of thousands of concentration camp prisoners.

Soviet forces were the first to approach a major Nazi camp, reaching Majdanek near Lublin, Poland, in July 1944. Later, the Soviets liberated Auschwitz, the largest killing center and concentration camp, in January 1945. In the following months, the Soviets liberated additional camps in the Baltic states, Poland, and eventually in Germany itself. In April and May 1945, the British liberated Nazi camps in northern Germany, including Bergen-Belsen and Neuengamme.

The first Nazi camp liberated by US forces was Ohrdruf, a subcamp of Buchenwald (the main camp would be liberated one week later). The 4th Armored Division and the 89th Infantry of the Third US Army entered Ohrdruf on April 4, 1945. When soldiers of the 4th Armored Division entered the camp, they discovered piles of bodies, some covered with lime, and others partially incinerated on pyres. The ghastly nature of their discovery led General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe, to visit the camp on April 12, with Generals George S. Patton and Omar Bradley. After his visit, Eisenhower cabled General George C. Marshall, the head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, describing his trip to Ohrdruf:

_The things I saw beggar description. ... The visual evidence and the verbal testimony of starvation, cruelty and bestiality were so overpowering as to leave me a bit sick ... I made the visit deliberately, in order to be in a position to give first-hand evidence of these things if ever, in the future, there develops a tendency to charge these allegations merely to “propaganda.”_

Seeing the Nazi crimes committed at Ohrdruf made a powerful impact on Eisenhower, and he wanted the world to know what happened in the concentration camps. On April 19, 1945, he again cabled Marshall with a request to bring members of Congress and journalists to the newly liberated camps so that they could convey the horrible truth about Nazi atrocities to the American public. Within days, congressmen and journalists began arriving to bear witness to Nazi crimes in the camps.

The discovery of the Ohrdruf camp, and the subsequent liberation of Dora-Mittelbau (April 11), Flossenbürg (April 23), Dachau (April 29), and Mauthausen (May 5) opened the eyes of many US soldiers and the American public to the horrors perpetrated by the Nazis during the Holocaust.
EISENHOWER ASKS CONGRESS AND PRESS TO WITNESS NAZI HORRORS

How To Frame Your Research
Typically, daily newspapers reported news the morning after it occurred. However, some papers were printed in multiple editions, including evening news. If you are using an evening paper, begin your search on the same day as the event being researched.

April 20 - 27, 1945
News about General Eisenhower's invitation to members of Congress and the press.

April 20, 1945 - May 31, 1945
News, editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and political cartoons reporting on Congressional delegations and journalists visiting the liberated camps.

April 5, 1945 - May 15, 1945
News about American liberation of concentration camps (e.g., Buchenwald, Dachau, Flossenbürg, Mauthausen).

April 1945 - June 1945
Editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and political cartoons responding to the liberation of concentration camps.

Keywords
Eisenhower, Congress, congressmen, press, Ohdruf, Buchenwald, concentration camp, delegation
PRESIDENT TRUMAN ORDERS QUOTA PREFERENCE FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

From 1945 to 1952, more than 250,000 Jewish displaced persons (DPs) lived in camps and urban centers in Germany, Austria, and Italy. Bereft of home and family and reluctant to return to their prewar homelands, most sought to begin a new life outside Europe. Palestine was the most favored destination of Jewish Holocaust survivors, followed by the United States. Immigration restrictions were still in effect in the United States after the war, and legislation to expedite the admission of Jewish DPs was slow in coming.

President Harry S Truman favored a liberal immigration policy toward DPs. Faced with congressional inaction, he issued an executive order, the "Truman Directive," on December 22, 1945. The directive required that existing immigration quotas be designated for displaced persons. While overall immigration into the United States did not increase, more DPs were admitted than before. About 22,950 DPs, of whom two-thirds were Jewish, entered the United States between December 22, 1945, and 1947 under provisions of the Truman Directive.

Congressional action was needed before existing immigration quotas could be increased. Not until 1948, following intense lobbying by the American Jewish community, did Congress pass legislation to admit 400,000 DPs to the United States. Nearly 80,000 of these, or about 20 percent, were Jewish DPs. By 1952, 137,450 Jewish refugees (including close to 100,000 DPs) had settled in the United States.

How To Frame Your Research
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December 22 - 29, 1945
News articles about President Truman's directive on displaced persons.

December 23, 1945 - December 31, 1946
Editorials, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and political cartoons responding to President Truman's directive on displaced persons and the immigration of displaced persons to the United States.

Keywords
Truman, directive, displaced persons, DP, quota, executive order, refugees, immigration