

<Name>

Mr. Burns

APUSH/US History II

<Due Date>

Holocaust Conclusion

The Allied forces had received several reports about Holocaust activities but [redacted] was their primary goal. Germany had been on the offensive during the course of the war but by 1944 after the [redacted] they were forced to begin retreating. During this retreat, Nazi soldiers began to destroy any evidence of concentration camps and extermination camps. However in July, 1944 [redacted] soldiers captured a concentration camp in Poland. The Russians found hundreds of dead bodies, along with gas chambers, crematoriums, and thousands of starving prisoners. Those earlier reports had now become a nightmarish reality.

Previous Reports

Many of the early reports came from Holocaust escapees. One of the first reports came from an extermination camp escapee whose reports made it to [redacted] in 1942 but disappeared after that. During that time the United States Office of War Information refused to release information. Later that year, the Allies “condemned” Hitler’s extermination of the Jewish people. More reports came in but still the U.S. and other Allies did little to openly interfere with the Holocaust. Many believed that the reports that came in were [redacted] meant to make Poland a primary target for liberating.

Why would the U.S. and other allies refuse to acknowledge the Holocaust? [redacted]

To get a more reliable account, a man named [Witold Pilecki](#) volunteered to go to Auschwitz. He tried to incite an uprising but realized it would fail so he abandoned the plan. He reported some of what happened but his report was believed to be a lie.

Before Pilecki made his escape, 4 others escaped with a copy of his report. They dressed as [redacted], armed themselves and stole a military car. They drove out of the main gate and were never captured. Another story tells of a pair of men who escaped to Slovakia. One of the men had an [redacted]. His amazing ability to recall the number of people exported roughly matched the Slovakian deportation records and convinced the Allies to finally take action. Their accounts were called the [redacted].

In mid-1944, the [redacted] published information from that Report. With the Holocaust officially public knowledge, world leaders pressured the Hungarian government from deporting roughly [redacted] Jewish men and women. Despite this triumph of the American press, later reports came out that the New York Times had maintained a strict policy of minimizing reporting on the Holocaust before and during World War II. Historians have argued that the New York Times policies made it impossible for [redacted] to pressure Congress, church or government leaders to help out [redacted].

Question What should the world have done now that it was fully informed about the Holocaust?

[redacted]

Between 1944 and 1945 [redacted] major camps were liberated by both American and Russian forces. The soldiers who found the camps were shocked by the realities of what they found. Some [redacted] of the survivors died before they could be removed from the camps.

Global response

Before the Holocaust had become known to the American people, several different plans were constructed to aid Jewish Europeans. In 1938, a conference of [redacted] national leaders, including FDR, was assembled in France. This conference was held to determine what to do with Jewish refugees. Only the [redacted] agreed to accept Jewish people trying to flee Europe. Another conference was later called in 1943, to determine the fate of liberated Jewish people still in Nazi-occupied Europe. The American and British Governments [redacted] changing their immigration quotas to accommodate the refugees. America then later proposed a plan to allow European Jewish refugees to inhabit [redacted], which was not yet a state. FDR never openly supported this plan and ultimately it never happened.

Question: Do you think America should have done more to help Jewish Refugees? What could they have done differently? [redacted].

Advocates for aiding Jewish Europeans called on the United Nations to recognize genocide as a crime. It would not be until 1948 that the U.N. officially declared genocide to be a global crime. Members of the UN would also create what it believed to be [redacted] that it would set out to defend.

Question: What do you believe are [universal human rights](#)? [redacted]

Nuremberg Trials

Many of the Nazi military and civilian leaders would be put on trial after Germany surrendered in 1945. The biggest impact of these trials was elevating human rights to the global political realm. These trials created the idea of crimes against humanity, where [redacted] would be responsible for war crimes not [redacted].

Homework: Imagine that reports have reached our classroom about another teacher intentionally failing students. These students want to transfer into your classroom. You realize that transferring these students into your class could take away from your learning experience. What should we do with these students? Explain what you would do with this situation and justifications for your ideas on how to handle this situation.

[redacted]