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The Holocaust Demography

Jan Bernhoff
jan.bernhoff@usa.net

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Foreword

"Six million Jews where exterminated in the Holocaust", we are being told over and over again since many years. The public conscience of this figure stands in stark contrast to the fact that few people know – or care about – the number of Chinese, French, British, German, Japanese, Polish or Russian victims who perished during the greatest and most horrifying war ever known to humanity.

This paper does not give any hints on why the Jewish Six Million Figure has overshadowed any other figure describing the suffering and death of different peoples. It will, however, try to show how differentiated the established historians have been in their reasoning and calculating to produce this Six Million Figure. The difference of meaning before and after 1961 is, for example, great.

If the opinions expressed among these historians had been a sign of pluralism in a scientific context everything would have been nice and fine, but this is not so. Neither science nor pluralism, as we shall see, have anything to do with the Holocaust maths produced by the judges in Nuremberg, by Léon Poliakov, or by Raul Hilberg, just to mention some of them.

Having proved the lack of scientific basis for The Six Million Figure, I will then trace the roots of it. Though it is impossible to establish a reliable and definite Jewish Death Figure, I will refer to those who have made a serious try. Finally, this paper will explain what reasons there are to all this maths, macabre though it might look at first glance.

The Monument of the Empty Plaques

I visited Auschwitz in august 1994. The guided tour ended in Birkenau at the monument erected in 1967. For over 20 years the plaques at this monument bore an inscription telling the visitor in 19 languages that four million people died here as victims of Fascism. It was just that this text had been eradicated at the time of my visit, and the merciless sun called upon it's rays to dance over the 19 flat, empty plaques.

The guide told us that the real number of dead in Auschwitz is lower, "only" 1.1-1.4 million. She went on saying also that the Russians had also killed some of the Jews earlier counted as victims of Auschwitz. When I asked how this revision of numbers affects The Six Million Figure, I got the answer that *"six million is a theoretical maximum also including people who have perished in other ways, escaped or disappeared."*

We will see later on how well this statement coincides with the attitudes of traditionalist historians as well as with the attitudes of the revisionist historians who reject the traditionalist Six Million Figure.

Reception and Consequences back in Sweden

In may 1997, almost three years after my tour to Auschwitz, I defended my master thesis at the University of Lund, Sweden. The essay was divided in two halves, of which the first half dealt with the different ways established historians had handled The Holocaust Six Million from 1945 and on. The second half proved that historians have told us bizarre stories about several methods of Nazi mass execution methods, all of which have been forgotten today. I also mentioned those stories about soap and lampshades made of human fat and skin, respectively.

Even though my essay offered a half-hearted defence of the established gas chamber stories, the historians and students mostly met me with suspicion and hostility. My career as historian was – of course – ruined as far as I understand it, and I moved to Stockholm eventually becoming a computer teacher. I'm not mourning that any more, since my present work is stimulating and free and since I've got the time to write this paper. Many other historians have come out much worse after having touched this chapter of the past.

The next chapter will analyze what the established historians have written about the Six Million Figure.

The Six Million Tradition

The Nuremberg Trial Protocol and The Black Book

These two works, central for the oldest historiography, are very close to each other. To sum them up, they want to tell us that 10 million Jews died because of the Holocaust, and that 6 million of them were intentionally exterminated.

The Nuremberg Trial

Already at the outset of the trial the judges stated that six million Jews died as victims of The Holocaust, also stating that four million of them died in "extermination camps". The protocol claims that Adolf Eichmann should have been talking about "six million" with Wilhelm Höttl (whom I will discuss in the next chapter), and he offered his testimony to the trial.¹ In addition to this, another four million should have succumbed, so that the death toll ends at 10 million.² Some subsets of this figure are also established, of which I hereby mention the two most important:

Auschwitz: The number of dead presented depends on the testimony of Rudolf Höss. He said that 3 million died in the camp, and that 2,5 million of those were executed.³ The tribunal didn't take Höss at face value, and so decided that four million people died in Auschwitz.

Mauthausen: The tribunal pointed at the confession from the former commandant Frank Ziereis, who said that 1 – 1½ million died in a nearby subordinate camp named Hartheim.⁴

The emphasis given to the confessions from Höttl, Höss and Ziereis reflects the tendency in Nuremberg – as well as in the eldest Holocaust literature in general – to believe in the witness's testimonies. But today the four million figure has been erased from those 19 Auschwitz plaques as I said in the foreword. Similarly, hardly anyone believes any longer in the confession made by Frank Ziereis. For us, this means we have to question the methods probably used to extract the confessions from Höss and Ziereis. We should equally question the two Nuremberg articles 19 and 21 about policy regarding testimonies:

"Article 19. The Tribunal shall not be bound by technical rules of evidence. It shall adopt and apply to the greatest possible extent expeditious and non-technical procedure, and shall admit any evidence which it deems to have probative value."

*"Article 21. The Tribunal shall not require proof of facts of common knowledge but shall take judicial notice thereof. . . ."*⁵

¹International Military Tribunal (IMT) vol 31 p85-87 & vol 5 p380-382

²IMT vol 9 p611-612

³IMT vol 33 p275-279

⁴IMT vol 33 p282

⁵IMT vol 1 p15.

The history and perception of *The Black Book*

The Black Book, was a result of the collaborative effort by the Soviet Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee (JAC) and members of the American Jewish community. The Soviet intellectuals Ilya Ehrenburg and Vasily Grossman had a leading role in the composing of *The Black Book*. According to Ehrenburg, the mandatory State literary commission did not commit to publish the Book in October 1944:

"Instead of straight answer, the resolution was: 'write the book, and if it comes out well, it would be published.' But it is not we who are the authors, it is the fascists... What does that mean, 'comes out well' this is not a novel, it is a document."

The Book was partially printed in the Soviet Union by the Yiddish publisher Der Emes, however the entire edition, the typefaces, as well as the manuscript, were destroyed. After the end of the war, the concept of The Black Book was no longer politically correct. The JAC was also disbanded, its members purged at the outset of the state campaign against the "rootless cosmopolitans", a Soviet euphemism for Jews.⁶ Lucy Dawidowicz, who is happy to write that this work could be published in Jerusalem in 1980, praises it, and many with her consider it to be a valuable document unveiling Fascism.⁷

The Black Book: 6 million exterminated

This work might be praised and its history might be dramatic, but it is badly composed and chaotic. The figures expressing the number of victims allegedly exterminated are not decently summed up anywhere. There is, however, a map telling as how many Jews lived in Europe *before* the war. (I will deal with the problems of these pre-war estimates later on.)

If those figures are gathered together – and if you sum it up yourself – it will look like this:

(Country)	(Jewish citizens)
Austria	181 778
Belgium	60 000
Bulgaria	48 398
C. S. R. (=Czechoslovakia)	356 830
Danzig	10 448
Denmark	5 690
Estonia	4 302
Finland	1 755
France	240 000
Germany	522 700
Greece	72 000
Hungary	444 567
Italy	47 825
Latvia	93 479
Lithuania	1 55 125
Luxembourg	3 144
Netherlands	156 817

⁶http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Book

⁷Dawidowicz, Lucy: *The Holocaust and The Historians*, London, 1981 p81

Norway	1 359
Poland	3 113 900
Portugal	1 200
Rumania	900 000
Spain	4 000
Sweden	6 653
Switzerland	17 973
U. S. S. R.	3 020 141
Yugoslavia	68 405
(My sum)	9 538 489

And down to the right by the map it reads "2 out of every 3 European Jews have been exterminated".⁸ This obviously implicates six million Jewish victims. Yet there is nowhere in this work any figures suggesting death numbers for any single country. In this context it is important to point out what is meant with the implicated six million exterminated:

*"The exact statistics will not be available for some time. But it is unlikely that the present estimates will be far wrong. Of seven million Jews who lived in Europe **outside the Soviet Union** in 1933, or were born between 1933 and 1945, approximately six million have been killed by the Nazis or their satellite governments."*⁹ (The boldfaces are mine.)

The writers have, in other words, reached six million without including any Soviet Jews. Later on, we shall see that later works put strong emphasis in the Soviet Jews as victims, yet staying faithfully by that Six Million when it comes to the summing up.

The Black Book: 10 million dead

The Black Book, while it does not claim any ability to specify Jewish death tolls *country by country*, still wants to specify death tolls *camp by camp*, (mostly without giving any statistics for different ways to die in those camps).

Treblinka should have been the scene of death for at least three million people, mostly of Jewish origin.¹⁰ Vassili Grossman, who is the author of the chapter on Treblinka, claims that he could calculate this death number from the gas chamber 24-hour capacity, presupposing maximum usage during 10 of the 13 months the camp functioned.¹¹ He also wrote that the 3 million figure finds support in the transport capacity calculations, and that these transport calculations are supportable in testimonies from surviving prisoners as well as from captured Germans.¹²

When it comes to *Majdanek*, *The Black Book* refers to a Polish-Soviet commission estimating that 1.5 millions of people were gassed or shot there, and that a huge number of them were Jews.¹³ In *Chelmno*, 1 350 000

⁸The Black Book 1946 p250-251.

⁹The Black Book 1946p4.

¹⁰¹⁰The Black Book 1946 p400

¹¹The Black Book 1946 s407. Even if Grossman makes no reference, it is obvious that his gas chamber capacity calculations are based on the testimony made by the Auschwitz commandant Rudolf Höss, who made statements on Treblinka as well. IMT vol 33 p277.

¹²The Black Book 1946 p398 & p400

¹³The Black Book 1946 p389

Jews should have been killed.¹⁴ (In addition to these statistics, the work mentions several camps as extermination sites without attaching any figures to them.)

Auschwitz – including *Birkenau* as a subordinate camp – is the only camp where *The Black Book* makes a distinction between different ways to die. It could be proper to quote the relevant passage in its entirety:

*Careful Estimate of the Number of Jews Gassed in Birkenau
between April 1942 and April 1944 (according to
Countries of Origin)*

Poland	approximately	900,000
Holland	"	100,000
Greece		45,000
France		150,000
Belgium		50,000
Germany		60,000
Yugoslavia, Italy, Norway		50,000
Lithuania		50,000
Bohemia, Moravia, Austria		30,000
Slovakia		30,000
Various foreign Jews concentrated in Poland		300,000
(Sum)		1,765,000

(Then the text goes on saying that:)

"Four million Jews – about two-thirds of the six million who perished in Europe at the hand of the Nazis – were murdered at Oswiecim and its subsidiary camps.

During the Lunenburg trial at which war criminals Josef Kramer and forty-four SS men and women were prosecuted for conspiracy to commit mass murder, the chief prosecutor, Colonel T. M. Backhouse, produced as witness Dr. Ada Bimko, 30-year-old Polish physician who had been at Oswiecim until her transfer to Belsen, where she was liberated. She testified that records kept by the special group of prisoners assigned to the Oswiecim death house numbered 4,000,000 Jews killed."¹⁵

To sum it up, *The Black Book* claims that four million Jews died in Auschwitz and that 1.8 millions of them were mass murdered in gas chambers. This fits well to the Nuremberg statement based on the Höss confession, which was – as already had been said – reinterpreted upwards. The harmony with Nuremberg stands even clearer if the above mentioned camps are put together. (If you read that work you have to make the below summing up for yourself:)

Camp	Death number
Auschwitz	4,000,000
Treblinka	3,000,000
Majdanek	1,500,000
Chelmno	1,135,000
Sum	9,635,000

¹⁴The Black Book 1946 p377

¹⁵The Black Book 1946 p396.

When it comes to Treblinka and Maidanek it has already been said that the numbers include an (unspecified) smaller amount of Non-jews, but on the other hand *The Black Book* mentions other camps which are ascribed a smaller role in the so-called extermination process. These camps haven't got any death number attached to them, but it might be that they could "compensate" for the Treblinka/Maidanek Non-Jews included in the statistics.

Even though all these statistics might look tidy, and even though *The Black Book* points at as many witness sources as possible, all these calculations are built on sand. Later on, not even established historians came to believe in the Black Book methods relying on testimonies from people like Ada Bimko, claiming she could confirm four million dead in Auschwitz.

Having said enough about the Nuremberg Trial Protocol and The Black Book from the late 1940's, I will now move on saying a few words about the two most important Holocaust historians of the 1950's. Their names are Léon Poliakov and Gerald Reitlinger.

Harvest of Hate by Léon Poliakov

Poliakov – to mention him first – carefully points out in his work from 1951 that he only covers the fate of those having been *exterminated* (that is, intentionally murdered). This clearly means a narrowing of the subject compared to Nuremberg and *The Black Book*. He did not change anything in the 1985 edition, except that an extra chapter has been added at the end. This new chapter, with the purpose to clarify and not to revise, states that the real number of dead should be 8 million. Poliakov must have felt that the original work was too narrow only caring about those gassed or shot.¹⁶ This is – according to himself – the reason why he excluded Maidanek from the calculations, even though all other established historians have labelled this camp an extermination site. Poliakov's statistics are as below:

The Holocaust Statistics according to Poliakov

Auschwitz		2,000,000
Treblinka	over	700,000
Belzec	near	600,000
Sobibor		250,000
Chelmno/Kulmhof		300,000
Death patrols in the Soviet Union		1,500,000
Sum		5,350,000

In the relevant context, Poliakov tells us how he extracted the two million figure concerning Auschwitz from the Höss confession. Höss said, as a reminder, that three million died in Auschwitz and 2.5 million of these were exterminated. Poliakov's interest lies in the latter of these two figures, even though he did not believe that Höss understated, but that he *exaggerated*.¹⁷ Poliakov motivates this conclusion pointing at the statistics

¹⁶Poliakov 1985 p386.

¹⁷Poliakov 1951 p231-232 on Auschwitz, p224 on the other camps, and p159 concerning the Soviet Union. The figures for Treblinka, Belzec, Sobibor and Chelmno/Kulmhof come from a Polish commission that was active when the Nuremberg trial was still in progress.

of the deportees country by country, and claims that these statistics indicate a figure lower than the one Höss stated. At the same time, Poliakov admits that real statistic material is scarce, in particular when it comes to the Polish Jews. This is the motivation behind his "two million exterminated in Auschwitz" thesis, and it was going to be repeated by several prominent historians.

A further comment in the 1985 edition explains the background to the extermination figure of 1.5 Jews in the Soviet Union. Poliakov namely explains that it's the average of a 2 million statement that Adolf Eichmann should have done and 1 million coming from an American Nuremberg trial report.¹⁸ As we shall see, this fits perfectly fine with the findings of the great Raul Hilberg.

Léon Poliakov does not represent any progress from the naïve Nuremberg concept of putting all faith in the testimonies. He is just a caretaker of that tradition, even though he is a little more careful when it comes to the irresponsible Höss and Eichmann figures.

The Final Solution by Gerald Reitlinger

Reitlinger published his Magnum Opus only two years after Poliakov's Harvest of Hate hit the shelves, but there is a remarkable difference between them. Obviously, Reitlinger didn't pay much attention to the Nuremberg testimonial concept (or to Poliakov's slight modifications). The difference is visible both in the figures and in the philosophy:

Reitlinger's figures for the number of dead

	Low Estimate	High Estimate
France	60,000	65,000
Belgium	25,000	28,000
Luxembourg	3,000	3,000
Norway	700	700
Holland	104,000	104,000
Italy	8,500	9,500
Yugoslavia	55,000	58,000
Greece	57,000	60,000
Bulgaria (pre-1941-frontiers)	-	-
Rumania (pre-1940-frontiers)	200,000	220,000
Hungary (1938 frontiers)	180,000	200,000
Poland (1939 frontiers)	2,350,000	2,600,000
U.S.S.R. (pre-1939-frontiers + Balticum)	700,000	750,000
Totals	4,194,200	4,581,200

Reitlinger, who admits he has done guesses without being able to precise them very well, motivates his low figures saying that many Jews disappeared from the smaller countries (like Poland) into the Soviet Union, and thus never fell into German hands. His death figure for Auschwitz – between 800 000 and 900 000 – is lower than the official death figure of 1.1-1.4 million I was told about at the end of my aforementioned 1994 visit

¹⁸Poliakov 1985 p387. Since this is about the Einsatzgruppen I suppose the calculations also include Balticum, Byelorussia and Ukraine. Unfortunately, Poliakov does not specify.

there.¹⁹ Strange though it might look, Reitlinger has a good reputation among established historians though they don't seem to show any interest in his methods and principles.

The Destruction by Raul Hilberg

The publication of Raul Hilberg's work in 1961 meant a tremendous boost for the Holocaust as a mass media happening and thus also for public conscience, even though the Eichmann Trial going on in Jerusalem also helped a lot.

It provoked same debate that Hilberg unveiled the Jews' reluctance to oppose the effort to gather them and to deport them. Hilberg did not care to explain this. He could have been writing that the Zionist leaders of that time wanted the Jews to be deported in stead of being assimilated. But that is something we can read about in Leni Brenner's excellent *Zionism in the Age of Dictators*, so let's not be too small-minded.

In the 1961 version as well as in the revised and greatly expanded 1985 version of *The Destruction*, Hilberg sums up the dead to 5.1 million.²⁰ He still admits in an article written in 1994 – without expressing any opinion about it – that orthodox estimates tend to closer to six million.²¹ Similarly to earlier traditional works, Hilberg has drawn up tables for Jewish victims. First, we have his table about the *where* and *how*:

Hilberg's figures for the number of dead

Auschwitz	1,000,000	
Treblinka	750,000	
Belzec	550,000	
Sobibor	up to 200,000	
Chelmno/Kulmnhof	150,000	
Lublin (=Majdanek)	50,000	Total, Extermination camps 2,700,000
Non-extermiation camps	300,000	Total, Camps 3,000,000
Mobile Killing Actions	1,400,000	
Ghettoes & "aggravated deaths"	700,000	
Total	5,100,000	5,100,000

Let's observe that Hilberg, because of his ambition to include not only the alleged exterminated in the Poliakov style, specifies how many he believes to have died in the so called non-extermiation camps.²² Hilberg is namely the first established historian to distinguish between the western camps in Germany and Austria on the one hand, and the camps on Polish ground, labelling only the latter as "extermination camps"

Thus, Hilbergs differs greatly from the Nuremberg/*Black Book* attitude of calling everything "extermination camps". This attitude change taking place at about 1960 could possibly depend on the writings of the French revisionist Paul Rassinier in the 1950's. Rassinier had been captured by the Germans when he was in the French resistance, and was put in the Buchenwald camp. After the war, when he learned about the gas chamber

¹⁹Reitlinger 1953 p489-501

²⁰Hilberg 1961 p767 & Hilberg 1985 p1219

²¹Hilberg "Holocaust" at CD-ROM-encyclopaedia *Encarta – 94*, Microsoft 1994.

²²Hilberg 1961 p767 & 1985 p1219

stories from his former camp, he did what he could to prove them wrong. This essay can't prove that Rassinier's works made the difference, but Hilberg moved the extermination concept eastwards, ensuring it's survival.

Not every historian has admitted this difference between elder and younger historiography. For example, Swedish popular historian Peter Englund has written that

"People like Faurrisson have been living on borrowed time, partly because he has been able to exploit those misunderstandings which have occurred when the knowledge about Holocaust has moved on from the professional historians to the man in the street.

As for example, common people generally don't know how to distinguish between the different camps created by the Nazi police state, and that gas chambers only existed in some few camps in Poland, where the most active mass killings took place.

Thus, revisionists score easy points by saying for example that indeed there were no gas chambers in Dachau or in Bergen-Belsen or in Mauthausen, something professional historians haven't ever claimed either."²³

The Black Book should be enough to reject this bizarre statement from Englund. It gives a vivid painting of Natzweiler, Dachau and other places in the West, labelling them "extermination camps."²⁴ If that wouldn't be enough, I only have to look into my former university student book about common world history to see how wrong Englund is:

"A generation, having been brought up to have disbelief in [the WWI falsehoods] became painfully aware of [...] concentration camps, turned into centres for mass extermination with gas chambers and crematory ovens in Majdanek, Treblinka, Dachau, Buchenwald, Auschwitz and elsewhere, where people 'of lesser value' could be killed systematically."²⁵

So much for "borrowed time", "misunderstandings", and "easy points". It could, however, have been this article and this attitude that in 2002 made Englund enter the Swedish Academy's chair number 10 yielding to him the ability to award the Nobel Prize to people sharing his opinion.

²³Englund, Peter: "Förintelsens bevis" ("The Proofs of the Holocaust") in *Moderna Tider*, June/July 1992

²⁴Just to get a few examples out of *The Black Book* I can start quoting an article from *New York Herald Tribune* (April, 30th, 1945), claimed as a source. The article is written by Joseph Pulitzer, saying: "(The Germans) real interest was in killing [the Jews] off [...] If the reader is still sceptical, let him look at the photographs and when he does, let him remember that they picture only small parts of the mosaic of the Nazi policy of deliberate mass extermination." (*Black Book* p258) The next page tells the reader that in Dachau, that American soldiers and officials could bear witness about the trench, the machinegun towers [...] and the gas chambers and the crematories. (*Black Book* p259-260) About the camp Natzweiler near Struthof, Jacques Fano wrote in *Le Parisien Libéré* (according to *French Press and Information Service*, New York, January 2, 1945, Document Series II, No. 1816 E) under the heading *l'Usine de la Mort (=Death Factory)* in detail telling that prisoners were executed there en masse after having undergone many kinds of torture and sinister experiments. In his turn, he refers to French intelligence service. (*Black Book* p281-286)

²⁵Palmer, R R and Colton, J: *Nya tidens världshistoria* (Original title: *A History of The Modern World*), vol II, Norstedts, Stockholm 1990, p336

In consequence with the eastwards move of the Holocaust centre, Hilberg took a great interest in the so called "Mobile Killing Actions" specified in the above chart. He points at a great number of documents, yet by chance (?) ending up with the same 1.5 million approximation as Poliakov did.

Tidy though his camp statistics might seem to be, Hilberg is much more nonchalant when it comes to figures country by country. His simplistic way of thinking is easily unveiled with some maths, as in the chart below:²⁶

County	Column A: Jewish inhabitants 1939 (p670)	Column B: Jewish inhabitants 1945 (p670 & p737)	Column C: Death figures (s767)	Column D: Column A - column B - column C =
Poland	3,300,000	225,000	3,000,000	75,000
Rumania	800,000	430,000	270,000	100,000
Yugoslavia	75,000	12,000	60,000	3,000
Greece	74,000	12,000	60,000	2,000
Belgium + Netherlands	230,000	60,000	130,000	40,000
France + Italy	320,000	70,000	233,000	17,000
Total	4,799,000	809,000	3,753,000	237,000

Column D, derived from the three first columns, indicates the number of Jews that – according to Hilberg – have escaped or have a fate unknown to us. It is easy to find stories about the Polish mass flight eastwards from the German-Polish war in September 1939, and it is not very hard to prove that the Soviets deported many who escaped into "their" part of Poland. Yet this, Hilberg makes things much too easy for himself. In his uncomplicated world, people stay and die on the spot with only few exceptions.

Summing Hilberg up, his work represented new concepts not only by saying that the Jews offered little resistance, or by his eastwards moving of the Holocaust epicentre. He also must have decided to reject the "always-believe-testimonial" concept applied in Nuremberg. And finally – this being not the least important aspect of Hilberg – his 5.1 million expresses the number of dead *in total*. This makes for a big difference between him on the one hand and Nuremberg/*Black Book* and Poliakov on the other hand. mlf only he could have started to think in terms of migration the way Reitlinger started to do.

The Holocaust by Nora Levin

Nora Levin stands out so far that she presents many different death figures produced by other known and unknown historians. In addition to this, she has her own figures spread out on many pages in her work published in 1968.

When it comes to camps and Einsatzgruppen, her figures look like those offered by Poliakov, except that only 80 000 people should have died in Treblinka. Levin has made an effort in motivating her Treblinka figure and this is understandable, since it is only 1/10 of the figures offered to us by Poliakov and Hilberg. Levin argues that few Jews could have been

²⁶Hilberg 1961

exterminated in Treblinka because of resistance and technical problems.²⁷ She also has no death figures to offer when it comes to Maidanek and Sobibor (although she calls Maidanek an extermination site as opposed to Poliakov).

Her death figures for Jews country by country look like the Hilberg figures, and for this reason I don't offer them here.²⁸

With the exception of her Treblinka death figure, Levin doesn't offer anything controversial. It's just some from Poliakov and some from Hilberg, though I cannot see how that combination makes for consequence. On the other hand, she doesn't seem to take any real interest in death figures. In the late 1960's when she wrote her work, it must have been obvious for an expert of her kind how diversified the death figures' historiography had become. She might have thought they were not worth taking any stand.

The War Against the Jews by Lucy Dawidowicz

According to the historiographer Michael Marrus this is "probably the most widely read work on this subject".²⁹ Maybe the passion and poetry within could be one explanation to this.

Even though Dawidowicz goes the Hilberg way of counting six million *dead* instead of six million *exterminated* as for example the Nuremberg protocol, she does not seem to understand (or care about) this distinction. In stead, she praises the Nuremberg calculations describing them as "remarkably correct". Then she goes on displaying her own statistics country by country:³⁰

Dawidowicz' figures for the number of dead

Country	Estimated Pre-Final Solution Population	Estimated Jewish Population Annihilated	Percent
Poland	3,300,000	3,000,000	90
Baltic countries	253,000	228,000	90
Germany/Austria Protectorate	240,000	210,000	90
Slovakia	90,000	80,000	89
Greece	90,000	75,000	83
The Netherlands	70,000	54,000	77
Hungary	140,000	105,000	75
SSR White Russia	650,000	450,000	70
SSR Ukraine	375,000	245,000	65
Belgium	1,500,000	900,000	60
Yugoslavia	65,000	40,000	60
Rumania	43,000	26,000	60
Norway	600,000	300,000	50
France	1,800	900	50
Bulgaria	350,000	90,000	26
	64,000	14,000	22

²⁷Levin 1968 p267 about Einsatzgruppen, p306 about Chelmno, p307 about Belzec, p315 about Treblinka and p316 about Auschwitz

²⁸Levin 1968 pages 401, 403, 458, 468, 477, 514, 516, 517, 526, 547, 560 and 596 about death figures for different countries

²⁹Marrus 1993 s34.

³⁰Dawidowicz 1975 Appendix B - The Final Solution in Figures

Italy	40,000	8,000	20
Luxembourg	5,000	1,000	20
Russia (RSFSR)	975,000	107,000	11
Denmark	8,000	-	-
Finland	2,000	-	-
Total	8,861,800	5,933,900	67

The reader should observe that the first column does not express the Jewish pre-war population, but the population before the "implication of the final solution". This makes for some marginal differences vis-à-vis *The Black Book* and Hilberg. Dawidowicz' 600,000 figure for Rumania is thus lower than *The Black Book's* 900,000 and Hilberg's 800,000, since she admits that many Jews had been able to leave the country up to the moment of the implication of the "Final solution". For the same reason, she offers us 64,000 Jews in Bulgaria while *The Black Book's* and Hilberg says 50,000, as we have already seen.

In the light of this, it is astonishing that she cannot make a similar estimation regarding the Jews of Poland. How can she believe that 3.3 million Jews were waiting in Poland when she admits a migration movement from Rumania to Bulgaria? Lucy Dawidowicz softly touches yet mainly avoids the complex topic of Jewish migration during World War two.

The Dawidowicz way of reasoning becomes even more bizarre when it comes to the camp death figures. Now she doesn't talk in terms of dead as regarding the countries, but about exterminated (in the Nuremberg-Poliakov way). Since the figures and methods are very similar those used by Poliakov, I have put these two historians next to each other. Yet the similarity, we can see some striking differences:

Dawidowicz extermination figures (page 149)		Poliakov's extermination figures	
Auschwitz	2,000,000	Auschwitz	2,000,000
Belzec	600,000	Belzec	near 600,000
Chelmno	340,000	Chelmno/Kulmnhof	300,000
Majdanek	1,380,000	(Majdanek)	-
Sobibor	250,000	Sobibor	250,000
Treblinka	800,000	Treblinka over	700,000
		Death patrols in USSR	1,500,000
Total	5,370,000	Total	5,350,000

For some reason, Dawidowicz has taken no interest in the possibility that Soviet Jews could have been killed by "death patrols". Instead, she prefers to restore and slightly modify (from 1.5 million to 1.38 million) the Majdanek extermination figure as it was presented in *The Black Book*. We are left alone with our guesses, since Dawidowicz offers no explanations and no arguments to support her combination of old and new figures composed in her own personal way.

"Why did the Heavens not darken?" by Arno Mayer

Mayer's starting point, when it comes to death figures, is that calculations are hard to make with exactitude, but at least he writes that Poland during the winter 1941-42 became "the country of slaughter for European Jewry". At the beginning of this winter, fatal as it might have been, Mayer estimates there could have been a little less than 2 million Jews in Poland.³¹ Thus, he obviously doesn't share the widespread opinion that as many as 3 million of the (allegedly) 3.3 million Polish Jews of 1939 died by German hands. The aforementioned 2 million estimate doesn't mean that Mayer has any figures to offer himself. In stead, he writes:

"All in all, how many bodies where cremated in Auschwitz? How many died there all told? What was the national, religious, and the ethnic breakdown in this commonwealth of victims? How many of them where condemned to die a 'natural' death and how many were deliberately slaughtered? And what was the proportion of Jews among those murdered in cold blood - among those gassed? We have simply no answers to these questions at this time."

On the same page he further claims that:

"Besides, from 1942 to 1945, certainly at Auschwitz, but probably overall, more Jews were killed by so-called 'natural' causes than by 'unnatural' ones."³²

Taking this stand, Mayer distances himself from at least Poliakov and his kind, since the latter claimed that many more where killed intentionally than by "natural causes".³³ Since Mayer is very careful not to give away too much of his opinions, it is hard to analyze him much deeper, but at least I can tell his work looks and feels like Reitlinger's.

Jean-Claude Pressac

Pressac was popular during a few years in the mid 1990's. As a protégé of the Klarsfeld couple, he could challenge some popular beliefs on the Holocaust (as for example that about the Wannsee conference) just because he was considered as a defender of "truth" and "memory" against revisionists like Robert Faurrisson. As a historian as well as an individual, Pressac was a fascinating personality.

In his 1989 book Pressac claims without much discussing that 1-1½ million people had died in Auschwitz, aligning well with Raul Hilberg.³⁴ However, Pressac has revised himself by 1993, stating a death figure of 775,000 at the same place. He adds that 630,000 of them had been gassed and that about only 400,000 people where ever registered as prisoners in Auschwitz, about half of that number representing Jews.³⁵ Those who where

³¹Mayer 1988 p390.

³²Mayer 1988 p365-366

³³Poliakov who writes very little about those who died without being "holocausted" estimates their number in Auschwitz to "only" 300,000 (1951 p232).

³⁴Pressac 1989 p553

³⁵Pressac 1993 p148

sent to the gas chambers, he writes, where never registered. Their numbers have been estimated from demographic models.

Pressac does not offer any such model to the reader, and is thus no better than any of his conformist predecessors, had we not known anything about his secret agenda. There have namely been claims from Gernar Rudolf and others about Pressac being a revisionist "double agent". These claims where in fact true, as can be seen in the below article, where he said:

"Concerning the massacres of Jews, several basic conceptions must be thoroughly revised. The expression 'genocide' is no longer appropriate. Every epochal change leads to a new evaluation of rigid canons of memory which we have heretofore been taught to regard as eternal. However, new documents inevitably surface which increasingly upset official certainties. Thus, today's depiction of the system of concentration camps, while still triumphant, is doomed to collapse. What can be salvaged from it? Very little. The truth is that exaggeration of the extent of the concentration camp system is like squaring the circle - it means declaring that black is white. The truth is that national conscience does not care for sad stories. The life of a zombie is not inspiring, since pain suffered is exploited and converted into jingling coins: Medals, pensions, public office, political influence. Thus it becomes possible to be simultaneously victim and privileged individual, even executioner."³⁶

In the same interview, Pressac made some revisions about death figures for other camps than Auschwitz, and these figures where an embarrassment for those who by then considered Pressac as a friend:

Chelmno	80,000 to 85,000
Belzec	100,000 to 150,000
Sobibor	30,000 to 35,000
Treblinka	200,000 to 250,000
Majdanek	fewer than 100,000

For saying things like the above, Pressac fell into disgrace. After the brief storm of propaganda that accompanied publication of *Les crématoires d'Auschwitz* died down, his name quickly disappeared from the headlines. At the defamation trial *Irving versus Lipstadt*, which took place in London in 2000, Lipstadt called as expert witness, not Pressac, but rather the Dutch Jew Robert Jan van Pelt, who was clearly less informed than Pressac.³⁷

It is amusing to notice that Pressac is still referred to by conformist historians, as we shall see later on in this paper.

³⁶Igounet, Valerie: "Entretien avec Jean-Claude Pressac réalisé par Valérie Igounet (Interview with Jean-Claude Pressac, Conducted by Valerie Igounet)", in: *Histoire du négationnisme en France*, Editions du Seuil, Paris 2000.

³⁷Rudolf, Gernar: *Critique of Claims Made by Robert Jan Van Pelt*, <http://www.vho.org/GB/c/GR/RudolfOnVanPelt.html>

The figures and the impressions put together

The most central figures belonging to this chapter are gathered in the chart below:

The Death Figures' historiography condensed

(All figures are in millions)	Dead	Jewish victims in total of which extermin	Dead	Jewish victims in Auschwitz of which extermin
Nuremb & Black B 1946 ¹	10	6	4	Nuremb: 2,5 Black B: 1,8
Poliakov 1951 & 1985	8	5,35	2,3	2
Reitlinger 1953	4,2-4,6		0,8-0,9	
Hilberg 1961 & 1985	5,1	ca 4,1	1	
Dawidowicz 1975	6	5,37		2
Mayer 1988	? under 6	Probably less than half of total death figure	?	Less than half of total-death figure
Pressac 1993			775 000	630 000

If I now sum things up, the established historians being active after that the Nuremberg protocol and *The Black Book* where produced, have tried to lower the high death figures stemming from them. This is something they have done without coordination (which is good) and without relating to each other (which is highly indecent). Also, most of them made their sums reach six million.

Until 1961, the established story was – in accordance with the Nuremberg trial – that ten million Jews perished during World War II, and that six million of them where intentionally mass murdered in places like Auschwitz. Léon Poliakov and Gerald Reitlinger made up their own number, but that didn't seem to change the big picture.

After 1961, when Hilberg published *The Destruction of the European Jews*, the Six Million Figure has meant six million dead Jews altogether implying that two million where murdered intentionally. This means that Michael Marrus, the famous Holocaust historiographer, probably lied knowingly when he wrote in 1993 that

*"We are therefore more or less where we where forty years ago, with an estimate of between 5 million and six million."*³⁸

He pretends that six million in 1946 meant the same as in 1993, following the figures I express in boldface in the above chart. How much harder could it have been for Marrus to know about the Nuremberg Trial Protocols than it was for me as a student?

Also, Marrus conveniently ignored the work of Arno Mayer, who had written in 1988 that we can't really how many died in the Holocaust.

³⁸Marrus 1993 p199-200

Mayer's *Why did the heavens not darken?* is to be considered as a traditionalist work, though it was not orthodox enough to be accepted among most historians. There is a convention among them demanding that Mayer's work not should be mentioned or quoted (because he is "forgotten and unimportant"), and as a student in Lund I was asked to accept this Orwellian convention.

Even though Mayer was too careful to invent any number of his own and even though Pressac did so, the big picture offer us a bunch of court historians who have done their best to keep the show going, with Peter Englund and Michael Marrus doing their part trying to cover it up.

The erosion of testimonial based history from Nuremberg to Hilberg

On the other hand, the established historians have clearly jettisoned the blind belief in the stories told by "witnesses". This change in attitudes finds – as we shall see – its expression in the judging of those individuals who have stepped forward offering grotesque stories.

The original respect for whatever any camp survivor might have said, is expressed in the word of Elie Wiesel, who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986. He is probably the most well-known of all the camp survivors:

*"Auschwitz defies imagination and perception; it submits only to memory[...] Between the dead and the rest of us there exists an abyss that no talent can comprehend [...] Only (sic!) the survivors, or those who are totally honest with themselves about the limitations of their powers, had better try."*³⁹

There are in fact some other established historians who have supported this rigid stand tainted with religious language. One of them is Nora Levin, who has written in her foreword that the survivors' stories are more important than whatever work a historian could possibly produce:

*"No one altogether understands how mass murder on such a scale could have happened or could have been allowed to happen. The accumulation of more facts does not yield this understanding; indeed, comprehensibility may never be possible. [...] Currently, there is an eruption of interest in diaries, survivors' accounts, poetry and fiction based on the Holocaust. [...] In spite of the vast accumulating literature, however, an abyss still lies between those who endured the unimaginable and those who did not. [...] Ordinary human beings simply cannot rethink themselves into such a world and ordinary ways to achieve empathy fail, for all of the recognizable attributes of human reaction are balked at the Nazi divide. The world of Auschwitz was, in truth, a new planet."*⁴⁰

Marrus, who himself quoted Wiesel as per the above, wants to be more moderate than both him and Levin:

³⁹Wiesel, Elie: "Does the Holocaust Lie Beyond the Reach of Art?" *New York Times*, April, 17th, 1983. See also Marrus 1993 p3.

⁴⁰Levin 1968 pages xi-xii

*"Survivors especially, I think, can feel violated by many historians' efforts and are far more comfortable with acts of commemoration and the compilation of eye-witness testimony."*⁴¹

Most historians' respect for testimonies as sources, however, has faded. Lucy Dawidowicz, who based her death numbers on those from *The Black Book* as well as on Poliakov's testimonial based calculations, has nevertheless become more critical later on:

*"[...] the survivor's memory is often distorted by hate, sentimentality and the passage of time. His perspective on external events is often skewed by the limits of his personal experience."*⁴²

Gerald Reitlinger, who proved to be a "radicalist" early on, wrote like this later in his life:

*"A certain degree of reserve is necessary in handling all this material, and particularly this applies to the last section [concerning the survivors' testimonies] [...] The Eastern European Jew is a natural rhetorician, speaking in flowery similes."*⁴³

By now, no one should be surprised to learn that Mayer and Pressac seem to be of the same opinion:

"Sources for the study of the gas chambers are at once rare and unreliable. [...] Most of what is known is based on the depositions of Nazi officials and executioners at postwar trials and on the memory of survivors and bystanders. This testimony must be screened carefully, since it can be influenced by subjective factors of great complexity."⁴⁴

"This study (=Auschwitz: Technique and operation of the Gas Chambers) already demonstrates the complete bankruptcy of the traditional history, a history based for the most part on testimonies, assembled according to the mood of the moment, truncated to fit an arbitrary truth and sprinkled with a few German documents of uneven value and without any connection with one another."⁴⁵

Perhaps we could have expected some criticism against the two Nuremberg articles 19 & 21, now that the above historians have been so brave? But none of Dawidowicz, Reitlinger, Mayer and Pressac have seen them, or maybe they have forgotten them. Here they are again:

⁴¹Marrus 1993 p3

⁴²Dawidowicz 1976 p11

⁴³Reitlinger 1971 p581

⁴⁴Mayer 1988 p362-363 He then goes on writing "The want of precise and verifiable information about the method and extent of the mass murder of Jews by the crusaders (in the Rhine Valley in 1096) does not in any way put into question the reality and general magnitude of this prototypical Judeocide of the Middle Ages. Both radical scepticism and rigid dogmatism about the exact process of extermination and the exact number of victims are the bane of sound historical interpretation."

⁴⁵Pressac 1989 p264

"Article 19. The Tribunal shall not be bound by technical rules of evidence. It shall adopt and apply to the greatest possible extent expeditious and non-technical procedure, and shall admit any evidence which it deems to have probative value."

*"Article 21. The Tribunal shall not require proof of facts of common knowledge but shall take judicial notice thereof [...]."*⁴⁶

Heretics within the establishment of historians?

If the above figures are not studied carefully enough, it is possible to end up with at least two faulty conclusions, namely that the established historians presented in this chapter

- (1) have used scientific methods in their "research".
- (2) have sometimes dared to go their own way yet reaching 6 million.

To me, it looks more like they wanted to get an excuse for writing new books of their own. Thus, they didn't ask themselves "How can I revise these unscientific figures, and give proof of a more serious way of calculate the number of dead/exterminated Jews?" In stead, they probably told themselves something like "I don't want to get involved in any controversy, but if question these unscientific figure just a little, no one will get angry and yet I have my name published in a book."

Because of this desire of conformity, everyone except Reitlinger (and Mayer and Pressac who are made pariahs) summed up to six million, whatever that figure would mean, and wherever it came from. The next chapter will explain the prehistory of this Six Million Figure.

⁴⁶IMT vol 1 p15.

The Origins of Six Million

As mentioned before, Hilberg reinvented the Six Million Figure. In Nuremberg that number meant something else. As we shall see, however, the roots of this number go way back.

Wilhelm Höttl's false Eichmann quotation

I already mentioned the Nuremberg six million testimony of former SS officer Wilhelm Höttl (sometimes spelled Hoettl), who said that he recalled it from a remark by Adolf Eichmann. Eichmann had been wartime head of the Jewish affairs section of Himmler's Reich Security Main Office (RSHA). Höttl, who also served with the RSHA during the war, stated in an affidavit dated November 26, 1945, and provided to the U.S. prosecution at Nuremberg, that Eichmann confided to him in August 1944 that some four million Jews had been killed in the "various extermination camps," and another two million had been killed in other ways, mostly in shootings by Einsatzgruppen forces in the course of the military campaign in Russia.⁴⁷

Eichmann himself, it should be noted, later called the Höttl story "nonsense," vigorously denied ever having made the alleged remark, and speculated that Höttl may have picked up the figure from a radio or newspaper report.⁴⁸ Also, let's notice that the above Höttl affidavit does not match the official Nuremberg figures already mentioned in the former chapter.

Then who was Wilhelm Höttl, and how reliable is his historic affidavit?

He was born in Vienna in March 1915. In 1938, at the remarkably young age of twenty-three, he received a doctorate in history from the University of Vienna. While still a student there, he joined the National Socialist party and the SS. From 1939 until the end of the war in Europe, Höttl was employed almost without interruption by Germany's central intelligence agency, the RSHA.

In March 1944 Höttl was assigned to Budapest, where he served as second in command to Himmler's SS representative in Hungary, and as political advisor to Hitler's ambassador there, Edmund Veesenmayer, who reported to Berlin, for example, on the large-scale deportations in 1944 of Jews from Hungary. On May 8, 1945, as German forces were unconditionally surrendering to the Allies, American troops arrested Höttl in Austria, and for several years after that he worked as an intelligence agent for the United States. He died in 1999, not long after the publication of his self-serving memoirs.

In April 2001 the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency made public thousands of pages of long-suppressed documents from its files of major German wartime figures, including the bulging Höttl file. Along with the release of

⁴⁷Höttl affidavit of Nov. 26, 1945: 2738-PS (USA-296) in IMT vol 31 p85-87

⁴⁸Aschenauer, Rudolf: (ed), *Ich, Adolf Eichmann* (Leoni [Bavaria]: Druffel, 1980), p460-461 & 474.

these documents, two U.S. government employees wrote and issued a detailed report about Höttl based on those recently declassified CIA files, which sheds revealing light on his wartime and postwar career. This report, entitled "Analysis of the Name File of Wilhelm Hoettl", was written by two historical researchers of the U.S. government's "Interagency Working Group" (IWG), Miriam Kleiman and Robert Skwirot.⁴⁹

These documents establish that Höttl was a completely unreliable informant who routinely fabricated information to please those who were willing to pay him. In their report, the two U.S. government researchers write:

"Hoettl's name file is approximately 600 pages, one of the largest of those released to the public so far. The size of the file owes to Hoettl's postwar career as a peddler of intelligence, good and bad, to anyone who would pay him. Reports link Hoettl to twelve different intelligence services, including the U.S., Yugoslav, Austrian, Israeli, Romanian, Vatican, Swiss, French, West German, Russian, Hungarian and British."

Soon after his arrest by the Americans in May 1945, Höttl began working for the U.S. Office of Strategic Services (OSS), the predecessor to the Central Intelligence Agency, and then for the U.S. Army's Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC). As the two U.S. government researchers put it:

"Upon his arrest, Hoettl played to the interests of his captors ..."

It was during this period, while he was secretly working for American intelligence, that Höttl provided his historic and damning "six million" affidavit for submission by the American prosecution at the Allied-run tribunal at Nuremberg.

In June 1949 one U.S. intelligence official cautioned against using Höttl for any reason, calling him "a man of such low character and poor political record that his use for intelligence activities, regardless of how profitable they may be, is a short-sighted policy by the U.S." In August 1950, CIA messages referred to Höttl as a "*notorious fabricator [of] intelligence.*" A U.S. Army CIC report in early 1952 deemed his information useless, noting that Höttl "*is involved in extensive intelligence activities for almost anyone who is willing to purchase his findings.*" In April 1952 his reports were called "*worthless and possibly inflated or fabricated.*"

In July 1952, when U.S. Army intelligence finally broke completely with Höttl, a letter on U.S. Army stationery warned:

"Dr. Höttl has long been known to this headquarters and other allied military organizations in Austria as a fabricator of intelligence information. His reports normally consist of a fine cobweb of fact, heavily padded with lies, deceit, conjecture and other false types of information. This organization will have absolutely nothing to do with Dr. Höttl or any members of his present entourage. He is persona non grata to the American, French and British elements in Austria."

⁴⁹The report has formerly been posted on the U.S. National Archives web site: <http://www.nara.gov/iwg/declass/hoettl.html>

In their report on his postwar career, U.S. government historical researchers Kleiman and Skwirot conclude:

"The voluminous materials in Wilhelm Höttl's personality file ... trace the activities of a notorious intelligence peddler and fabricator, who successfully convinced one intelligence service after another of his value, and then proceeded to lose such support."

Indeed, and as already noted, Höttl "successfully convinced" the American and British prosecutors, and the judges, of the inter-Allied tribunal in Nuremberg, and many others around the world ever since, that German authorities killed six million Jews during the Second World War. And even though U.S. intelligence services and U.S. government researchers have, finally, as it were, discredited him, Höttl's most historically important claim remains widely, and even officially accepted.

The recently released U.S. intelligence documents on Höttl, and the U.S. government report about his postwar career, confirm what some revisionist scholars have contended for years. In his pathbreaking book *The Hoax of the Twentieth Century*, first published in 1976, Dr. Arthur Butz cited sources that were publicly available even in the 1950s to show that, during the war, Höttl had gotten into trouble more than once with SS authorities. His involvement in a shady Polish land deal led in 1942 to an SS investigation of his activities. An internal SS report characterized him as "dishonest, scheming, fawning,... a real hoaxer," and concluded that he was not fit even for SS membership, let alone a sensitive intelligence service position.⁵⁰ Höttl was, accordingly, demoted. But his luck improved after his friend and fellow Austrian, Ernst Kaltenbrunner, was appointed in 1943 to head the RSHA. It seems that Kaltenbrunner protected him from a second disciplinary action, this one for misappropriation of security service funds.⁵¹

So it was Höttl who invented and offered us the Six Million Figure? It could be that his statement mattered, but he is not a starting point. In stead, he was a link in a long tradition and a liar and an opportunist as much as he was proven to be when it came to his intelligence "findings".

Wartime propaganda from The New York Times

Some years before Wilhelm Höttl sat in Nuremberg and said what the victors wanted him to say, The New York Times repeatedly gave out The Six Million Figure to everyone able to read. To quote just a few of those articles offered as examples by Arthur Butz, *NYT* wrote in December 13, 1942, p. 21:

"[...] Authenticated reports point to 2,000,000 Jews who have already been slain by all manner of satanic barbarism, and plans for the total extermination of all Jews upon whom the Nazis can lay their hands. The slaughter of a third of the Jewish population in Hitler's domain

⁵⁰Butz, Arthur: *The Hoax of the Twentieth Century*, IHR 1997, p81.

⁵¹Also see Weber, Mark: "Wilhelm Höttl and the Elusive 'Six Million'" at http://www.ihr.org/jhr/v20/v20n5p25_Weber.html.

[3×2,000,000=6,000,000] and the threatened slaughter of all is a holocaust without parallel."⁵²

NYT, March 2, 1943, pp. 1, 4:

"Immediate action by the United Nations to save as many as possible of the five million Jews threatened with extermination [...] was demanded at a mass demonstration [...] in Madison Square Garden last night.

*[...Rabbi Hertz said] 'appalling is the fact that those who proclaim the Four Freedoms have so far done very little to secure even the freedom to live for 6,000,000 of their Jewish fellow men by readiness to rescue those who might still escape Nazi torture and butchery.'"*⁵³

NYT, March 10, 1943, p. 12:

*"Forty thousand persons listened and watched [...] last night to two performances of 'We Will Never Die,' a dramatic mass memorial to the 2,000,000 Jews killed in Europe. [...] The narrator said 'There will be no Jews left in Europe for representation when peace comes. The four million left to kill are being killed, according to plan.'"*⁵⁴

Butz concludes in his work that The Six Million Figures traces its roots in the wartime propaganda of 1942 and 1943.⁵⁵

Strenuous though he might have been in the searching for the above quotations, Arthur Butz failed to grasp the true six million roots. I can't be sure to do so either, but I can prove that there are reasons to look for quotations from the time before World War II.

Chaim Weizmann, who was going to be the first president of Israel later on, is very interesting in this context. On November 25, 1936 he testified, as the president of the World Zionist Organization, in front of the Peel Commission. It was formed as a reaction of violent clashes between Jews and Arabs in Palestine and it finally decided to divide Palestine into a Jewish and an Arab State. In his speech, Weizmann said:

*"It is no exaggeration to say that six million Jews are sentenced to be imprisoned in this part of the world, where they are unwanted, and for whom the countries are divided into those, where they are unwanted, and those, where they are not admitted."*⁵⁶

Let us notice that Weizmann exploited the Holocaust in the struggle against the Palestinians three years before the outbreak of World War II.

⁵²Butz, Arthur: *The Hoax of the Twentieth Century*, Brighton, Historical Review Press, 1976 p100. All following quotes are from the 3rd edition.

⁵³Butz 1976 p103. This is the same Rabbi Hertz who already as early as 1922 referred to "1,000,000 human beings [...] butchered" during pogroms in the Ukraine, *New York Times*, January 9, 1922, p19; also see Appendix 1.

⁵⁴Butz 1976 p104

⁵⁵Butz 1976 p105

⁵⁶Retranslated from the introduction of Walter A. Berendsohn to Thomas Mann, *Sieben Manifeste zur jüdischen Frage*, Darmstadt: Jos. Melzer Verlag, 1966, p18. Also see Heddesheimer, Don: *The First Holocaust*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Chicago, IL 60625, October 2003 p10.

This does not mean that Weizmann was the inventor of The Six Million Number. We have to step further backwards in time.

During and after World War I

Holocaust is a World War One word. Holocaust was used during and after World War One to describe what was going on in Europe and what allegedly happened to the Jews of Europe during and after that war. While the stories that are today referred to as "the Holocaust" weren't called a holocaust (in the 1950's by Poliakov or Reitlinger, for example) during or even for decades after World War Two, the word "holocaust" was used while World War One was happening and thereafter. It was called "a holocaust", it was called "the greatest tragedy the world has ever known" and it was called "the greatest need the world has ever known".

No historians today believe in these stories and only a little more of them seem to know about them. Of course, all kind of people suffered in WWI Eastern Europe, but there are no signs that the Jews would have suffered much more than any other religious or ethnic group.

Until 1917, the leader of the Jewish community in New York, Jacob Schiff, repeatedly called for an end to "*this holocaust*".⁵⁷ In 1919, the *American Hebrew* magazine used the word holocaust in describing the plight of European Jewry in an article written under the byline of a former Governor of New York State.⁵⁸ Yehuda Bauer wrote in *My Brother's Keeper*, an authorized history of the Joint Distribution Committee of Jewish War Sufferers, that

"[...] *the destruction of European Jewry during World War Two has obliterated the memory of the first holocaust of the 20th century in the wake of the First World War*".⁵⁹

Less than a month after the initial declarations of war in Europe, plans were begun to organize an effort to help Jews living in the war affected areas. On October 4, 1914, the *Central Committee for the Relief of Jews Suffering Through the War* was formed with Morris Engelman elected financial secretary and a day of prayer was proclaimed by President Woodrow Wilson. On October 14, 1914, Louis Marshall, the president of the American Jewish Committee, called a meeting which resulted in the formation of the *American Jewish Relief Committee* with Louis Marshall as chairman and Felix Warburg as treasurer. On November 27, 1914, the American Jewish Relief Committee and the Central Relief Committee organized the Joint Distribution Committee, electing Felix M. Warburg chairman.⁶⁰

⁵⁷Cohen, Naomi W: *Jacob H. Schiff, A Study in American Jewish Leadership*, Hanover, NH: Brandeis University Press, University Press of New England, 1999, p191.

⁵⁸Glynn, Martin H: "The Crucifixion of Jews Must Stop!", *The American Hebrew*, Oct. 31, 1919, p582f; also see Appendix 2.

⁵⁹Bauer, Yehuda: *My Brother's Keeper. A History of the American Joint Distribution Committee 1929-1939*, The Jewish Publication Society of America, Philadelphia, 1974.

⁶⁰Engelman, Morris: *Fifteen Years of Effort on Behalf of World Jewry*, Ference Press, New York, 1929.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee for Jewish War Sufferers, affectionately referred to by its supporters as the 'Joint', was also started in 1914 by the leaders of the American Jewish Committee in response to:

"[...] alarming news that reached the U.S. regarding the fate of eighty five thousand Jews of Palestine."

There were then many Jews living in Palestine being subsidized by British Jews whose subsidies were interrupted by the war between Great Britain and Turkey, by then still in control of Palestine.

Felix Marshall, the long-time president of the American Jewish Committee, became its first president. Jacob Schiff made son-in-law Felix Warburg the first 'Joint' treasurer. On New Years Day of 1915, Felix Warburg, the Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, organized a remittance or credit bureau supervised by his secretary, Harriet Lowenstein. In March of that year, the Central Relief Committee made arrangements with Henry Morgenthau, Woodrow Wilson's ambassador to Turkey, to transmit funds to institutions in Palestine. In time, aid to Palestine, Greece, Egypt, and Syria was channelled through the U.S. Ambassador to Turkey.

The Price of Liberty is an authorized history of the American Jewish Committee that was published in 1948, after World War Two was over. It contains a chapter about World War One entitled "*The Holocaust of War*". This chapter mentions some of these World War One and post-war fund raising efforts and includes the following quote:

*"As the armies rolled back and forth in desperate conflict over the borders of Poland, Galicia, and East Prussia, terror, desolation and death descended on the civilian population in general, but most of all upon the seven million Jews. The Christian Poles, Ruthenians and Germans suffered the inevitable hardships that attend all warfare; but the Jews, already proscribed by the Russians and Poles, met with a concentrated orgy of hatred, blood lust and vindictive opportunity that threatened to wipe them out in one vast holocaust."*⁶¹

Rabbi Stephen Wise and his "6,000,000 living, bleeding, suffering"

In 1918, the American Jewish Congress was founded with the original goals of "*providing humanitarian relief for European Jews who had suffered from the carnage of the war and restoring the State Of Israel to Palestine*".⁶² The American Jewish Congress saw itself as the voice of the eastern European Jews rather than the American Jewish Committee, whose members were mostly German Jews. Rabbi Stephen S. Wise was the major leadership figure of the American Jewish Congress during its formative period.⁶³ Early on, Dr. Wise was known for his progressive ideas on general

⁶¹Schachner, Nathan: *The Price of Liberty. A History of The American Jewish Committee*, The American Jewish Committee, New York, 1948, p60

⁶²Ivers, Gregg: *To Build A Wall. The American Jews and the Separation of Church and State*, University Press of Virginia, Charlottesville 1995, p36

⁶³Ivers, G 1995, p51

topics and also as an exponent of Zionism, a movement then contemplating the reestablishment of the Jewish nation.⁶⁴

As early as 1900, Wise is recorded telling a Zionist gathering that "*there are 6,000,000 living, bleeding, suffering arguments in favor of Zionism*" as reported in a *New York Times* article.⁶⁵

It should be interesting in this context that Rabbi Wise was also very important in breaking the World War Two extermination stories to the American mainstream media through the *New York Times*. A *New York Times* article of November 25, 1942, written under the byline of James MacDonald, has been mounted and displayed in the United States Memorial Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. It is titled:

"Himmler Program Kills Polish Jews. [...] Officials of Poland Publish Data – Dr. Wise Gets Check Here by State Department."

The first part of the article was based on a report issued on November 24 by the Polish government in exile in London, England, although details of the report had allegedly been previously printed in unnamed Palestine newspapers. It stated that in June of 1942 Himmler had visited Warsaw and ordered that half the Jews in Poland be killed by the end of the year and that this was being done throughout Poland and especially at Treblinka, Belzec, and Sobibor. There is no mention of Auschwitz, which seemingly didn't enter Allied rhetoric before 1944.

Stephen S. Wise, who was still the president of the American Jewish Congress as well as chairman of the World Jewish Congress, is the source of the second half of the article "*Wise Gets Confirmations-Checks With State Department on Nazis' Extermination Campaign.*" Wise said that he had learned through unnamed sources confirmed by the State Department "*that about half the estimated 4,000,000 Jews in Nazi-occupied Europe had been slain in an extermination campaign*" and that "*the plan was drafted by Herman Backe, Secretary of State for Economics, and was put into effect by Hitler by late summer.*"⁶⁶

Was Rabbi Wise the first one to mention The Six Million Number, when he appealed for charity in the summer of 1900? We can't know for sure, but we can always study how the World War One cries about "Holocaust" appealed for money, and we can follow this money to see where it went in the end.

Gathering the money

Felix Warburg, who is already mentioned in this paper because of his activities in the *American Jewish Relief Committee* as well as in the *Joint Distribution Committee*, went on with his activities even after the end of World War One.

⁶⁴"*Dr. Wise To Go To Portland*", *New York Times*, August 3, 1898 p1

⁶⁵"*Rabbi Wise's Address*", *New York Times*, June 11, 1900, p7; also see Appendix 3.

⁶⁶Also see Heddeshheimer 2003 p43

Felix told the New York Times in an article that the Jews were the worst sufferers in the war, *"and have reduced to tragically unbelievable poverty, starvation and disease about 6,000,000 souls, or half the Jewish population of the earth."*⁶⁷ At the same time, one of Felix's older brothers, Max Warburg, was representing Germany on their Finance Committee at the Versailles Peace conference. Max ran the Warburg bank in Hamburg and played a role at every major reparations conference for 14 years giving him wide yet unofficial influence. During the Weimar Republic, Max Warburg was on the Central Committee of the Reichsbank and on the board of 27 German businesses including I.G. Farben.

American Red Cross and American Jewish Committee representatives were working in a remote region of Poland according to another 1919 report article.⁶⁸

"The war has left 5,000,000 destitute and stricken Jews in Eastern Europe. [...] Their number is being reduced every day by a series of the most terrible epidemics that ever swept any section of the world."

He attributed this to an accident of geography, causing Jews to suffer

"more from the war than any other element of the population."

At the end of World War One, there certainly were people starving in Europe. There were millions of Germans, Poles, and Russians starving. Also more people died in a worldwide influenza epidemic in 1918-1919 than died in World War One. On Christmas Day of 1919, the American Relief Committee for German Children, which included Jacob Schiff and Paul Warburg, was soliciting funds for hungry German children through the Society of Friends.

Of course only a very small percentage of the world's many needy people then was Jewish, as is true today, although the State of Israel receives the lion's share of the total of U.S. foreign aid. Some things don't change.

This 1920 fund raising campaign was aided and legitimized by at least two *New York Times* editorials. One entitled *"A Work Of Mercy"* made the point that the Jews who fought bravely for the allied cause had no fatherland and were still suffering even though the war had ended. It stated:

*"In Europe there are today more than 5,000,000 Jews who are starving or on the verge of starvation, and many are in the grip of a virulent typhus epidemic. An appeal has been issued throughout the world."*⁶⁹

Another *Times* editorial captioned *"The Jewish War Sufferers"* reported:

"In Russia and the neighboring countries the Jews have been subject to a particularly malignant persecution which has not ended with the war. Without any national organization of their own, they have no central

⁶⁷"Felix M. Warburg Tells Sad Plight of Jews," *New York Times*, September 29, 1919, p7. For the complete article, see Appendix 4.

⁶⁸"Five Million Face Famine in Poland", *New York Times*, December 3, 1919, p24

⁶⁹*New York Times*, April 21, 1920, p. 8. For the entire article, see Appendix 5.

organization to appeal to. Living in segregated and generally impoverished communities, their misery is cumulative to an extent unknown among other sufferers. It is estimated that more than five millions are actually starving or on the verge of starvation, and a virulent typhus epidemic is raging among them and is already spreading among neighboring populations."⁷⁰

On September 10, 1920, President Woodrow Wilson expressed sympathy for the suffering Jews of eastern Europe in a letter to Stephen S. Wise, then Executive Chairman of the Committee on Jewish Status in eastern Europe. President Wilson declared:

*"I am deeply moved by the reports which you send me of the trials and sufferings endured by your fellow Jews throughout Eastern Europe. No American, whatever his racial origin or religious creed can fail to feel the deepest sympathy with the Jews of Eastern Europe who continue to bear not only the burden of the war, but also the sufferings incident to unenlightened and unjust treatment at the hands of governments and peoples. [...] I am of the hope that those nations with which our own land holds political commerce may do everything in their power to end not only the legal disabilities of their Jewish populations as provided for in the minority clauses of the Peace Treaty, but all the injustices and wrongs which are laid upon them."*⁷¹

The peace treaty that President Wilson was referring to was of course the Versailles Treaty and the Peace Conference at Paris that ended World War One.

In the early twenties, the charity engagement faced a gradual decline until 1926, when the mass media campaign revived again briefly:⁷²

"There are millions of Eastern European Jews in Poland and an equal number in other countries who are passing away and all of them will disappear unless we rise to the emergency, forget everything else, and come to the rescue."

—Louis Marshall, President, American Jewish Committee.⁷³

⁷⁰"The Jewish War Sufferers," *New York Times*, May 3, 1920, p12

⁷¹"President Urges Justice for Jews," *New York Times*, September 12, 1920.

⁷²Heddesheimer 2003 p57ff

⁷³"Gifts of \$3,700,000 Open Jewish Drive", *New York Times*, April 26, 1926, p1

At this time the Six Million Figure could also be used meaning dollars instead of people, as in this poster from the New York Times April, 21st, 1926 (and reprinted as an appendix by Heddesheimer):

**“In Heaven’s Name,
Arouse the Jews of America!”**

*This is the cry that comes from the
Jews of Europe to the Jews of America*

“Make them understand that we are dying! Make them understand that a whole people is dying!
*Dying for lack of food!
Dying for lack of medical help!
Dying for lack of shelter!*

“Make them understand that hundreds upon hundreds are killing themselves because their suffering and the suffering of their loved ones has made life unbearable.

“Make them understand that millions of Jews are trapped in Europe and there is no hope except the Jews of America help.

“We solemnly declare to the Jews of America that never in the history of the Jewish people, dating back for centuries, was there a situation like this, and never before in the history of the Jewish people was there any emergency as great as this.

“Time and again the Jews of America have saved us from death. And now, from the depths of our despair, we plead with you again to help us quickly or we perish.”

Extract from a letter received from one of the leading Jews in Europe to David A. Brown, National Chairman, United Jewish Campaign for \$15,000,000.

Jews of New York, you have the opportunity and privilege of saving these, your people, by subscribing as never before during the Campaign about to be conducted. Every Jew worthy of the name will want to carry his full share of this great responsibility.
Every Jew will want to give answer to the cry that comes from Europe.

“In Heaven’s Name, Arouse the Jews of America!”
New York’s Quota
\$6,000,000

United Jewish Campaign of New York
April 25th to May 9th Headquarters: Biltmore Hotel

<p>FELIX M. WARBURG Hon. Chairman</p> <p>LOUIS MARSHALL Hon. Chairman</p> <p>HERBERT H. LEHMAN Chairman, Reconstruction Comm.</p>	<p>WILLIAM FOX Chairman</p> <p>JONAH J. GOLDSTEIN Vice-Chairman</p>	<p>DAVID A. BROWN Natl. Chairman</p> <p>DAVID M. BRESSLER Vice-Chairman</p> <p>OTTO A. ROSALSKY Chairman, Advisory Council</p>	<p>PAUL BAERWALD Treasurer</p> <p>H. A. GUINZBURG Asst. Treasurer</p>
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“There are 5,000,000 Jews in Central and Eastern Europe facing starvation [...]. Five million Jews are in desperate distress today - 2,225,000 in Russia, 2,225,000 in Poland, and 500,000 in Bessarabia, Lithuania, and the nearby countries.”

—The American Christian Fund, December 6, 1926.⁷⁴

⁷⁴“Cathedral is Scene of Rally of Faiths for Jewish Relief”, *New York Times*, December 6, 1926, pp. 1, 18

Although obviously not true, or at the very least grossly exaggerated, these stories, which have been completely forgotten today, were taken quite seriously at the time they were made. The press had a lot more credibility in 1920 than it has today. Yet this, few people might believe that The Six Million Figure was hammered into the minds of people by the media already during WWI and the years around 1920. And as we can see from the last two quotations below the story went on – at least sparsely – seemingly unhindered until the next great war in Europe:

In 1938, “*a depressing picture of 6,000,000 Jews in Central Europe deprived of protection or economic opportunities, slowly dying of starvation, all hope gone*” was presented by Jacob Tarshis, known by his radio audience as the Lamplighter, representing the American Joint Distribution Committee:

“*‘The Jewish tragedy started when Hitler came to power in 1933,’ Mr. Tarshis declared. ‘Now anti-Semitism has spread to thirteen European nations, and threatened the very existence of millions of Jews.’*”⁷⁵

In 1940, Dr. Nahum Goldman, chairman of the administrative committee of the World Jewish Congress, said in an interview at the Hotel Astor that:

“*Six million Jews in Europe are doomed to destruction, if the victory of Nazis should be final. [...] The chances for mass emigration and resettlement of European Jewry seems to be remote, and European Jews face the danger of physical annihilation. Even the 4,000,000 Jews under Soviet rule, although free from racial discrimination, are not safe in the event of a final Nazi victory.*”⁷⁶

At the time of Nahum Goldman's outcry, World War II had already begun, and the epic story of our Big Number could soon get some more fuel again.

Sending the money

But if most Eastern European Jews were not as destitute as all the above heartbreaking stories told people in those days, where did all the charity money go?

The wealthy Felix Warburg, whom we already know by now, played a key role in this story. He made most of the money go into different agricultural projects in the Soviet Union.

Since he was a banker we don't expect him to sympathize with the Soviet way of ruling the society, and even though the early Soviet state attracted sympathy from many Jews around the world, we cannot label Warburg as a communist that easily. That would be as unfair as to label the Germans as National Socialists just because they lived in the 1930's.

Also, there had already been several Jewish agricultural projects at the end of the 19th century in czarist Russia. Baron Edmund de Rothschild funded some of them calling them "my colonies", and that didn't make him a friend

⁷⁵"Jewish Teachers Chided By Isaac", *New York Times*, February 23, 1938.

⁷⁶"Nazi Publicity Here Held Smoke Screen", *New York Times*, June 25, 1940, p4

of the Czar. This problem of Third World Aid "helping-the-people-without-helping-the-regime" has repeated itself many times during the 20th century.

All this being said however, Felix Warburg was clearly a friend of the Soviet system. He travelled the huge Red Empire by train and limousine in the spring of 1927 to visit about 40 of the Jewish colonies he had founded and supported.⁷⁷ When he came back, he talked enthusiastically about his impressions at a fund raising rally in Chicago:

*"I wish you had been with us on our trip through Russia. Good friends had warned us not to make the trip, that it was dangerous, that we were going to a country where everything would be supervised and we would get predigested food in regard to the things we wanted to see. Nothing of the kind has happened. In no country we visited were we as free from formalities and granted such absolute freedom as in Russia. [...] The work in Russia has been a great success, not only from the sentimental standpoint but also from the financial standpoint. It is difficult to realize that untrained Jewish people from the cities should have been brought to these farms and in the third year should begin seriously to pay back the loans, heavy loans, but that is the truth. Everything given to them is noted down by them in a book. Whenever they look at the book they know what they owe to the mutual credit society, and they know what they owe to the Kassas and they know what they owe to the Jews of America."*⁷⁸

It is a fair guess that this kind of efforts from people like Felix Warburg did not help the Soviet Union only economically. Let us assume that leaders like Lenin and Stalin were happy to get the moral support from abroad, and that they were at least as happy about the PR effect.

⁷⁷Heddesheimer 2003 p67-71

⁷⁸"After Three Years, The Progress of the Jewish Farm Colonies in Russia", Reports of Dr. Joseph A. Rosen, Felix M. Warburg, and James H. Becker, Delivered at the Constructive Relief Conference of the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Jewish Campaign, Chicago, October 22-23, 1927. Also see Heddesheimer 2003 p71.

Some Serious Attempts

Of course, no one can establish for sure a World War II death number for the Jews. This being said, there are good and bad methods. This chapter deals with demographers who did not presuppose six million, instead trying to establish a figure without such prejudices.

Walter Sanning

The work by this demographer is filled with statistics and charts expressing births, deaths, migration and deportation. Since I don't want to write his book a second time, I will in the following limit the scope to the Jews of Poland. As we could see in the "six-million-tradition" chapter, those historians who have belied in "six million exterminated" or "six million dead" claim that about half of that number came from Poland. For that reason, Poland will be the most reasonable case study, though not the easiest to study.

The Polish census of December 9, 1931 showed that the Polish Jews numbered 3,113,933 or almost 9.8% in a total population of 31,915,779. The census also proved that the Jews lived mostly in cities and mostly in the eastern provinces. In the countryside, Jews were almost never peasants but instead artisans living in small Jewish settlements called *shtetls*.⁷⁹

Even the Munich-based Institute for Contemporary History admitted:

*"The wave of emigration of German Jews was only a part – and not even the largest one at that – of a general Jewish emigration from central, eastern and southeastern Europe. In the years following 1933, about 100,000 Jews left Poland every year, partly because of the increasingly anti-Semitic policies of the Polish government, but also because of the progressively worsening pauperization of the Polish Jews. Similar tendencies showed up in Latvia, Lithuania, Rumania and, to a lesser degree, in Hungary."*⁸⁰

Having made deductions for the mortality-over-birth estimation, also having made deductions for the 31,216 Jews that died as Polish soldiers in the 1939 German-Polish war, Sanning comes to the conclusion that there were still 2,633,000 Jews left in Poland at the end of September 1939.⁸¹ Since the Jews mostly lived in the eastern part of Poland up to the war, Sanning proposes the below figures:

Areas under German control	757,000
Areas under Soviet Control	1,776,000
Refugees in Rumania	100,000
Former Polish Jews (end of 1939)	2,633,000

⁷⁹Sanning, Walter: *The Dissolution of Eastern European Jewry*, Institute for Historical Review, 3rd printing November 1990, p20ff

⁸⁰Gutachen des Instituts für Zeitgeschichte, Munich 1958, p79-80; Sanning 1990 p32.

⁸¹Sanning 1990 p33

When it comes to the Jews in the Soviet sphere, most of them were deported before the German attack of June, 22nd, 1941. Most of them were above-average educated, and thus very useful in remote parts of the Soviet Union. We shall also keep in mind that Stalin soon started to organize a massive military build-up in the zone bordering German-occupied Poland, and civilians running around where not a welcome sight.⁸²

And what happened to those supposedly 757,000 Jews who were caught in German-occupied Poland? At the end June 1946, when the option for a return from the Soviet Union expired for the Jewish refugees of 1939, only 240,489 *registered* Jewish survivors were observed:

Jews having returned from the Soviet Union	157,420
Jews having survived the German occupation	83,069
Jews registered in Poland, June 1946	240,489

Sanning stresses that this is the number of *registered* Jews. The above figures make no mention of those who survived as gentiles in disguise, and/or fled to the West between the end of the war and June 1946. Sanning proposes that hundreds of thousands of Jews could have opted for this.⁸³ Still, this could well mean that 100,000 or 200,000 Jews perished at German hands.

When Sanning sums up his statistics for all countries at the end of the book, he arrives at 304,000 "missing" Jews altogether, admitting again how hard it is to really offer any figure with exactitude.⁸⁴ This was admittedly a very brief referring of Sanning, but at least we shall soon have a look at the failed attempt to counter him.

Carl Nordling

Nordling has studied the Encyclopaedia Judaica carefully and extracted the entries concerning 722 Jews from 12 European countries.⁸⁵ All of these Jews were born in the period 1860-1909, and still alive on January 1st, 1939. (In Appendix) Nordling calls them the "Jewish Establishment group", abbreviated to EstG.

To qualify for inclusion in the EstG, an individual Jew must have been living in one of the following countries on January 1st, 1938: France, Poland, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Italy the Netherlands, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Denmark Yugoslavia or Belgium. Their fates were as in the tables below:

Fled or emigrated 1938-1945	317	43.9%
Non-captured or in ghetto till end of War	256	35.5%
Captured by Axis forces	149	20.6%
Jewish Establishment group (EstG)	722	100.0%

⁸²Sanning 1990 p91-92

⁸³Sanning 1990 p44-46

⁸⁴Sanning 1990 p176

⁸⁵Nordling, Carl O: "The Jewish Establishment under Nazi-Threat and Domination 1938-1945" *The Journal of Historical Review*, vol 10, no 2, p195-209; Also see Appendix 6 to read the article in its entirety.

The category "Captured by Axis forces" is naturally very interesting for some further splitting up:

To concentration camps			96	13.3%
To Auschwitz	33	4.6%		
To other camps in Poland	13	1.8%		
To unknown camps	15	2.1%		
To other camps	20	2.7%		
To Theresienstadt	15	2.1%		
To Prisoner-Of-War camps			18	2.5%
Murdered or executed			18	2.5%
Released or escaped			17	2.3%
Captured by Axis forces			149	20.6%

Of those 61 who were deported to Auschwitz, other camps in Poland or to the unknown camps, only four returned alive. The other 57 were probably killed in one or the other way or succumbed to diseases like typhoid fever. Maybe some of them could have ended up as Soviet prisoners. Elie Wiesel has written that an enormous number of evacuated Auschwitz internees died during the 10-day transport in open railway trucks to Buchenwald in January 1945. Most of those who died because of typhoid fever did so at the end of the war, when chaos and utter misery reigned in Germany. Understanding of the conditions inside the camps calls for an understanding of the conditions outside of the camps.

We have to take into consideration that these 722 Jewish VIP's can't be representative for all the Jews of their respective countries. Those who have been included in the Encyclopaedia might have been so just because they took some kind of action during the war, or just because they happened to survive. Also, some of these prominent Jews could have had the economic means to escape more easily than the common, unknown Jews. On the other hand, well-known personalities probably had to face more hardships, should they have tried to escape incognito. It also must be said that the most well-known Jews – Like Albert Einstein – had already left Germany well before 1938.

Yet these problems, Nordling's study clearly indicates that the German National Socialist regime didn't try to exterminate the Jews systematically.

The Benz Counterattack

Even though Nordling's study supported Walter Sanning's detailed work in its spirit, there were some others who did their best to harpoon him. Already in the foreword, the editor Wolfgang Benz has written that the work has been produced to counter Sanning. And even though Benz writes that he had no purpose to defend any pre-set figure, he happens to end up with an opinion similar to the by now well-known figure offered by Rabbi Wise as far back as in 1900:

"The bottom line indicates a minimum of 5.29 and a maximum of just over 6 million [Jewish victims of the Holocaust]".⁸⁶

⁸⁶Benz, Wolfgang: *Dimension des Völkermords*, Oldenbourg, München 1991, p17

Benz' 585-page book has 17 authors, one for each country covered, including Germany, Austria, Luxemburg, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, Italy, Greece, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Poland and the Soviet Union. Every one of them has started his own chapter by giving a detailed account of all the anti-Jewish laws, measures and events that took place there. This means that the thickness of this work depends on the rich alphabet soup of material already covered in many other works. The statistic material is weaker than in Sanning's work which is contrastingly small, concise and compact.

There is another potential problem when many people get together to write a book like this one, and in this case it has not been evaded: The authors have seemingly not been able to agree among themselves how to split up the different countries in Europe, where borders went back and forth during the time span covered. In a detailed study comparing Sanning and Benz, Germar Rudolf has proved that about half a million Jews are counted twice in Benz work, since – for example – the Transylvanian Jews are covered in the chapter about Rumania as well as in the chapter about Hungary.⁸⁷

Refuting Benz

As for the German and Austrian Jews, Sanning being a demographer has taken the Jewish emigration until October 1941 into account. In this context, he calculates that, since the younger people emigrated and the elder remained, the stay-at-homes suffered from a higher mortality as well as from a lower nativity. Benz and his team altogether simply deny the problem with altered birth and death rates in Germany as well as in any other country. It doesn't seem to matter that the claim to write *in response* of Sanning.⁸⁸

It is even more insulting to the reader that Benz, when he is working for Institute for Contemporary History, pretends that the passage quoted by Sanning (in this paper at page 37) did not exist. The reason for this is, of course, that Benz wants to account those hundreds of thousands of Jews as exterminated. Again, this is done in spite of the fact that Benz claims that he is writing in response of Sanning.

The complete neglecting of the aforementioned passage – produced by Benz' own institute – is symptomatic of his overall attitude: Benz and his team act as if no Jewish emigration ever took place, not only regarding Poland as per the above. Every Jew who after the war no longer lived in the same place where he had been living before the war, is simply counted as exterminated!

What was the point in the writing of this book when the attitudes and the death figures are almost the same as in Raul Hilberg's work published 30 years earlier? It could have been enough to illustrate the demographic problem with the below article published on November 24, 1978 in the *State*

⁸⁷Rudolf, Germar: Holocaust Victims: "A Statistical Analysis", in *Dissecting the Holocaust*, Theses & Dissertations Press, Capshaw (Alabama), July 2000, p203-204

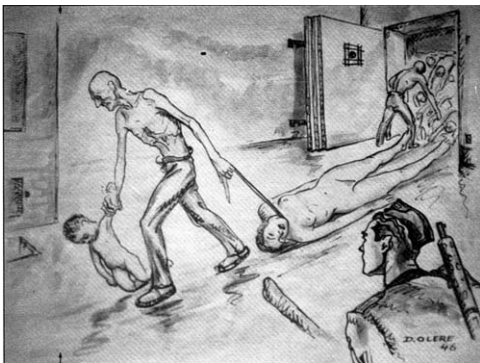
⁸⁸Sanning 1990 p136-138; Benz 1991 pages 34ff, 52, 64, 68 & 71. Also see Rudolf 2000 p187.

Time (Baton Rouge, Louisiana), since it explains much more vividly than any population statistics the fate of the "missing" Jews:

"The Steinbergs once flourished in a small Jewish village in Poland. That was before Hitler's death camps. Now more than 200 survivors and descendants of survivors are gathered here to share a special four-day celebration that began, appropriately, on Thanksgiving day. Relatives came Thursday from Canada, France, England, Argentina, Columbia, Israel, and from at least 13 cities across the United States. 'It is fabulous', said Iris Krasnow of Chicago. 'There are five generations here - from three months old to 85. People are crying and having a wonderful time. It's almost like a World War Two refugee reunion.'"

Is the Gas Chamber Killing Rate an indicator?

If there had been ample proof that the Auschwitz gas chambers could have swallowed – and also actually did swallow – enough victims to justify Six Million as a relevant number, all other conclusions and analyses in this paper would have been futile and meaningless. This had also probably been true, even if only the hundreds of thousands accounted as "missing" by Sanning could have been killed in this way. Therefore, I will briefly prove how absurd the Zyklon B mass killing story is.



David Olère's drawing

The image to the left made by David Olère in 1946 could serve as a starting point. The supervised prisoners who drag the many corpses from the gas chamber to the crematoria fit well into the commonly accepted image of mass killings. It is said that the insecticide Zyklon B containing hydrogen cyanide dropped through the roof was used for this mass killing.

Hydrogen Cyanide

Hydrogen Cyanide (with molecular formula HCN) is – in short – explosive and at the same time highly poisonous. Skin contact with the gas is enough to kill people, and there is an explosion risk since the alleged gas chambers were located near the crematories.

Bogus "defense" of the correct story

The Holocaust History Project has a page with the URL

<http://www.holocaust-history.org/auschwitz/chemistry/not-the-science/>

and it is interesting in this context as it is ambitious, and might in this context serve as an example to illustrate how the politically correct act to defend their Nuremberg or Hilberg based stories. The discussion looks indeed very technical in its "response" against the revisionists in common

and against Germar Rudolf in particular, but it fails completely to explain several problems, so you don't have to be a chemist to refute this site:⁸⁹

(1) The authors fail to admit that the deadly hydrogen cyanide sticks to the corpses and should have killed the workers upon skin contact, though there is an arrogant comment in note 53.

(2) The authors of *the Holocaust History Project* skilfully evade explaining how the gas chamber could have been ventilated when it was crammed with dead corpses. There should have been pockets of gas everywhere.

(3) When talking about ventilation problems, there should have been a problem with the Zyklon B granules littered everywhere on the floor and on the corpses. These granules should have diffused hydrogen cyanide for a long time after the crammed people had been killed. No one ever vividly described workers in the gas chambers quickly picking up the remaining granules with tweezers.

(4) The authors of the site also cling on to the "confession" made by Rudolf Höss.⁹⁰ As have already been said, his death figure of 3 million at Auschwitz has long since been discarded, but they try to defend the part of the testimony saying that the workers ate and smoked while they were dragging the corpses. (For their own best, they are not quoting him honestly.) And even though no mention is being made of any gas masks the authors somehow presume Höss just "forgot" to mention them.

(5) It is also interesting to see that material produced by Jean-Claude Pressac is referred to extensively.⁹¹ As we remember from "The Six Million Tradition"-chapter earlier (page 17 to be exact), Pressac lost the status he once had when he became too outspoken saying that *"The expression 'genocide' is no longer appropriate"*.

⁸⁹For a general description of Hydrogen Cyanide and Zyklon B, see for example http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hydrogen_cyanide and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zyklon_B though these sites are too political correct to ask the questions relevant in this context.

⁹⁰<http://www.holocaust-history.org/auschwitz/hoess-memoirs/index.shtml>

⁹¹<http://www.holocaust-history.org/auschwitz/intro-columns/>

The story goes on



As if the above was not enough, new gas chamber stories have been produced long after the end of WWII, as can be seen in the newspaper examples at this page.



What is the Point?

This paper has done its best to refute the story about 6,000,000 Jews being exterminated or killed during World War II, and now we have come to the end.

But if six million dead Jews would have been a tragedy, then the 304,000-Jews-dead-or-missing figure proposed by Sanning also should represent a tragedy. Also, as the investigation Carl Nordling did in the Encyclopaedia Judaica indicated, the death rates for Jews having arrived at Auschwitz where very high. How exactly they there is perhaps of less interest. Then what is the meaning, what is the point with all these analyses?

Alright, here are my points:

Established historians after WWII have – with few exceptions – done their best to uphold the image of 6,000,000 even though they have revised both the meaning and the subsets of this figure. At the same time, they have mostly pretended that this discrete revision has not taken place. The most obvious "denier" is Michael Marrus who wants people to believe that there haven't been any revision of numbers at all. Peter Englund similarly wants us to believe that the historiography has always been the same when it comes to the "extermination sites". Shame on them.

As if this wasn't bad enough, the figure 6,000,000 were not even invented during or after WWII, but long before. As we have seen, well organised Jewish interest groups used this figure already during WWI to collect money for their purposes. This money then mainly supported the building up of the Soviet Union.

When Walter Sanning made his demographical calculations driving on the road towards the 304,000-conclusion, he made another point obvious to the reader. Jews who died outside of the camps – for many different reasons – doesn't normally count as exterminated. And of course, non-Jews who died at the same time do not matter either: A German who died at typhoid fever outside of Belsen when his country suffered from Allied mass bombing doesn't count while Anne Frank, who died inside the camp from the same disease, counts. As I already said in context with Carl Nordling's analysis, understanding of the conditions inside the camps calls for an understanding of the conditions outside of the camps.

Togetherness

Thus, my last point is that the huge Second World War in all its tragedy should be analyzed as a whole. No doubt, hundreds of thousands of Jews must have perished because of the war, and a great part of them were killed intentionally out of prejudiced reasons. But it can't be fair to extract the Jews as one single minority and concentrate all attention just on them. Let us instead face this horrible past as a whole, and together.

Stockholm October, 31st, 2006
Jan Bernhoff

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Chief Rabbi condemns silence

The New York Times

January 9, 1922, p. 19

“BRITISH CHIEF RABBI CONDEMNS SILENCE ON POGROMS CARRIED OUT IN UKRAINE

London, Jan 8 (Associated Press).

—At the second annual conference of the Federation of Ukrainian Jews the Very Rev. Joseph H. Hertz, Chief Rabbi of the British Empire, called attention to the ‘astonishing fact in the moral history of contemporary humanity that one of the blackest pages in the annals of man has just closed, and yet the world knows next to nothing of the unspeakable horrors and infinite crimes perpetrated against the Jewish people.’

Dr. Hertz declared that 1,000,000 human beings had been butchered and that for three years 3,000,000 persons in the Ukraine had been made ‘to pass through the horrors of hell’ and that hardly a word of these facts had appeared in the newspapers.

The voice of the Jewish community, Dr. Hertz continued, had not been raised as it should have been, and it was humiliating to find the apathy and callousness with which certain sections of Jewry had faced this disaster. He described in detail some of the crimes that had been committed.

He said that although the pogroms in the Ukraine had ended there were something like 600,000 homeless children, 150,000 orphans and 35,000 double orphans in the Ukraine who would die from cold, hunger, or disease unless Jewish hearts remained human and came to the rescue.”

The Crucifixion of Jews Must Stop!

By MARTIN H. GLYNN

(Former Governor of the State of N. Y.)

From across the sea six million men and women call to us for help, and eight hundred thousand little children cry for bread.

These children, these men and women are our fellow-members of the human family, with the same claim on life as we, the same susceptibility to the winter's cold, the same propensity to death before the fangs of hunger. Within them reside the illimitable possibilities for the advancement of the human race as naturally would reside in six million human beings. We may not be their keepers but we ought to be their helpers.

In the face of death, in the throes of starvation there is no place for mental distinctions of creed, no place for physical differentiations of race. In this catastrophe, when six million human beings are being whirled toward the grave by a cruel and relentless fate, only the most idealistic promptings of human nature should sway the heart and move the hand.

Six million men and women are dying from lack of the necessaries of life; eight hundred thousand children cry for bread. And this fate is upon them through no fault of their own, through no transgression of the laws of God or man; but through the awful tyranny of war and a bigoted lust for Jewish blood.

In this threatened holocaust of human life, forgotten are the niceties of philosophical distinction, forgotten are the differences of historical interpretation; and the determination to help the helpless, to shelter the homeless, to clothe the naked and to feed the hungry becomes a religion at whose altar men of every race can worship and women of every creed can kneel. In this calamity the temporalities of man's fashionings fall away before the eternal verities of life, and we awaken to the fact that from the hands of one God we all come and before the tribunal of one God we all must stand on the day of final reckoning. And when that reckoning comes mere profession of lips will not weigh a pennyweight; but deeds, mere intangible deeds, deeds that dry the tear of sorrow and allay the pain of anguish, deeds that with the spirit of the Good Samaritan pour oil and wine in wounds and find sustenance and shelter for the suffering and the stricken, will outweigh all the stars in the heavens, all the waters in the seas, all the rocks and metals in all the celestial globes that revolve in the firmament around us.

Race is a matter of accident; creed, partly a matter of inheritance, partly a matter of environment, partly one's method of ratiocination; but our physical wants and corporeal needs are implanted



WHITTLESEY ?

in all of us by the hand of God, and the man or woman who can, and will not, hear the cry of the starving; who can, and will not, take heed of the wail of the dying; who can, and will not, stretch forth a helping hand to those who sink beneath the waves of adversity is an assassin of nature's finest instincts, a traitor to the cause of the human family and an abjurer of the natural law written upon the tablets of every human heart by the finger of God himself.

And so in the spirit that turned the poor widow's votive offering of copper into silver, and the silver into gold when placed upon God's altar, the people of this country are called upon to sanctify their money by giving \$25,000,000 in the name of the humanity of Moses to six million famished men and women.

Six million men and women are dying—eight hundred thousand little children are crying for bread.

And why?

Because of a war to lay Autocracy in the dust and give Democracy the sceptre of the Just.

And in that war for democracy 200,000 Jewish lads from the United States fought beneath the Stars and Stripes. In

the 77th Division alone there were 14,000 of them, and in Argonne Forest this division captured 54 German guns. This shows that at Argonne the Jewish boys from the United States fought for democracy as Joshua fought against the Amalekites on the plains of Abraham. In an address on the so-called "Lost Battalion," led by Colonel Whittlesey of Pittsfield, Major-General Alexander shows the fighting stuff these Jewish boys were made of. In some way or another Whittlesey's command was surrounded. They were short of rations. They tried to get word back to the rear telling of their plight. They tried and they tried, but their men never got through. Paralysis and stupefaction and despair were in the air. And when the hour was darkest and all seemed lost, a soldier had stepped forward, and said to Col. Whittlesey: "I will try to get through." He tried, he was wounded, he had to creep and crawl, but he got through. To-day he wears the Distinguished Service Cross and his name is

ABRAHAM KROTOSHINSKY.

Because of this war for Democracy six million Jewish men and women are starving across the seas; eight hundred thousand Jewish babies are crying for bread.

Appendix 3 – Rabbi Wise's Address

The New York Times

June 11, 1900, p. 7

"Rabbi Wise said, in part:

'The day will never come when I will care less for Zion, when there will be anyone who will strive more for the glorious ideals of Zionism.

'Two great conventions of Jews are being held tonight. In Chicago, there is a conference of charities called together by men who minister to the wants of the poor. They have assembled to see that too much charity is not given to the unworthy. Their purpose is right. But ours is the greater charity. We have assembled not to see that the Jew does not get too much, but that every Jew shall get the right to live.

'There are 6,000,000 living, bleeding, suffering arguments in favor of Zionism. They come not to beg, but ask for that which is higher than all material things. They seek to have satisfied the unquenchable thirst after the ideal. They ask to become once again the messengers of right, justice, and humanity.

'Your Christian friends will honor you if you have enough self-respect to care for your own people. Say that you are not a Jew and you will be hated as a Jew, nevertheless. But say that you are an American Jew, and strive for the best principles of the race, you will be respected and the Zionist name honored.

'Of Israel and Zion one thing is true. They can conquer. God is our leader, and with the General of the heavenly hosts to lead who will say that we go not to victory? 'In the old Greek games, the man who won the race was not he who went fastest, but the one who bore a lighted torch to the end of the course.

'We Zionists have entered a race, the torch of liberty, charity, and justice in our hands.

'The race will be won, not because we are fastest but because that lamp is a light unto the world. It will never be extinguished.

'Come, brothers, the lamp is in your hands, run the race and may God give you the victory forever."

Appendix 4 – Felix Warburg tells sad plight

The New York Times

September 29, 1919, p. 7

"FELIX M. WARBURG TELLS SAD PLIGHT OF JEWS.

Felix M. Warburg Says They Were the Worst Sufferers in War. Felix M. Warburg, Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee of American Funds for Jewish War Sufferers, who returned several days ago from a trip to Europe for that organization, made public yesterday some of his findings.

'The successive blows of contending armies have all but broken the back of European Jewry,' he said, 'and have reduced to tragically unbelievable poverty, starvation and disease about 6,000,000 souls, or half the Jewish population of the earth.

'The Jewish people throughout Eastern Europe, by sheer accident of geography, have suffered more from the war than any other element of the population. The potential vitality and the capacity for self-help that remains to those people after the last five years is amazing to me.'

The people are deeply moved by the help given them by America, Mr. Warburg said, but it would be fatal to lessen the emergency aid now while millions are in tragic need. The \$30,000,000 spent by this committee, he said, has fed and clothed more than a million children and it has renewed the hope of five million parents and elders.

'For more than four years,' he said, 'The war on the Eastern front was fought largely in the congested centers of Jewish population. A straight north and south line from Riga, on the Baltic, to Salonica, on the Aegean Sea, will touch every important battle area of the Eastern war zone and every center of Jewish population. After the cataclysm of the last few years it is too much to expect this Jewry to become self-sustaining in a short twelve-month.'

Mr. Warburg is concerned over the program soon to be started for the discontinuance of emergency relief. This plan, he said, calls for the formation of a \$10,000,000 reconstruction corporation.

'This organization,' he said, 'would afford facilities for constructive aid to Jews abroad in the way of loans and credit at nominal interest rates. The value of this sort of assistance as a substitute for pure charity is apparent.'

Other relief projects recommended by Mr. Warburg include the establishment of an express company to forward money and packages from Jews in this country to relatives and friends abroad; the distribution of \$120,000 worth of fuel in sections of Poland where destitution is greatest; the purchase of \$300,000 worth of cloth in the bolt whereby unemployed workmen of Poland may get raw material, and a plan to reunite those Jewish families that have relatives in the United States and those who have become separated abroad."

Appendix 5 – "more than 5,000,000 Jews"

The New York Times

April 21, 1920, Editorial, p. 8

"A WORK OF MERCY.

Hitherto the Jews have financed their own philanthropies and with a liberality and skill that has been universally recognized. In behalf of those of their religion who are still suffering in the war-ridden districts of Europe they are now for the first time seeking outside aid.

With the fate of Belgium and Serbia it was easy to sympathize. A nation's territory was invaded and its citizens were making a united stand. The Jews have no fatherland, no means of uniting in the common defense. Yet from the outset, wherever the call came, they fought, and fought bravely, for the allied cause. Meantime, in widely scattered lands the folk at home suffered as perhaps those of no other people, and their suffering has in many localities outlasted the war.

In Europe there are today more than 5,000,000 Jews who are starving or on the verge of starvation, and many are in the grip of a virulent typhus epidemic. An appeal has been issued throughout the world. The quota of New York City is \$7,500,000. The drive will occupy the week of May 2-9, and will be based wholly upon the principle of sympathy and a common humanity."

Appendix 6 – The Jewish Establishment under Nazi-Threat and Domination 1938-1945

Carl O. Nordling

The millions of Jews persecuted by Nazi Germany and to a certain extent also by the Romanian government, by Vichy France, by the Arrow Cross Corps in Hungary, etc., are generally regarded as anonymous "masses" of people, too numerous to be perceived as individuals. Admittedly, some books have been written by persons subjected to these persecutions. Such books as *Anne Frank's Diary*, *Si questo é un uomo* [If This Be a Man] (by Primo Levi), *I Cannot Forgive* (by Rudolf Vrba) and *La Nuit* (by Elie Wiesel) certainly present accounts of persecution under its individual aspects, but on the other hand it is obvious that the authors of these books had too narrow a range of vision to permit drawing any general conclusions.

There is, however, a certain substantial group, consisting of Jews whose individual fates are all fairly well known, so that the entire group may be studied statistically. From such a study, at least some general conclusions may be drawn. For convenience, this group will be called here the "Jewish Establishment Group," or EstG, as it is limited and defined below. The group consists of all the Jews whose biographical data are recorded under individual entries in the *Encyclopaedia Judaica* (Jerusalem: Keter Publishing House and New York: Macmillan, 1971). For the purpose of the following investigation the group has been limited to Jews from 12 countries, who were born in the period of 1860-1909 and alive on January

1st, 1939. A further limitation is caused by the difficulty of finding every applicable entry in the encyclopaedia. (On going through the encyclopaedia the first time, I found 590 applicable persons. A second survey added 132 persons, but the general view didn't change very much.) To qualify for inclusion in the EstG, an individual Jew must have been living in one of the following countries on January 1st, 1938: France, Poland, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Italy the Netherlands, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Denmark Yugoslavia or Belgium. In the case of Poland, Jews from the Vilna district have been excluded.

Although the Jews in the Soviet Union, the Baltic states and the Vilna district were also persecuted by the Nazi regimes they have not been included in the present study because of the difficulty of determining whether the Nazis or the Soviets were responsible for the fate of each individual. The great majority of the 96 Polish Jews included were living in the German zone in 1939.

Two Norwegian and three Greek Jews were excluded as being too few to represent any "Establishment" of their respective countries. There were no Jews from Finland, Bulgaria, Albania or Luxembourg to qualify for inclusion. Within the limitations mentioned, altogether 722 Jews were found to satisfy the requirements, distributed according to last country of voluntarily chosen residence, as follows: France 170, Poland 96, Germany 93, Austria 85, Hungary 64, Italy 63, The Netherlands 49, Czechoslovakia 42, Romania 29, Denmark 13, Yugoslavia 9 and Belgium 9. This group of 722 will be referred to as EstG for brevity's sake.

Out of the entire EstG, 317 persons (44%) emigrated or fled from the twelve countries studied at some time between January 1938 and April 1945. This figure of 317 does not include persons who emigrated to the Baltic states and were later caught by the Germans, nor persons who emigrated after liberation from German occupation. The emigration in most cases took place in the years 1938-41, although later cases of escape, notably among Danes, are also recorded.

Out of the 405 non-emigrated Jews, or "remainders," 256 (63% of the remainders, 35% of the EstG as a whole) were fortunate enough to escape seizure by the SS, the Gestapo, the Arrow Cross and like organizations. The 256 non-captured remainders also include Polish Jews living in ghettos throughout the war. The number of cases of those who hid cannot be determined because the *Encyclopaedia Judaica* does not give such details except in a few odd cases.

Out of the 256 non-captured remainders, 88 (34%) died before May, 1945, and 168 (66%) survived the war. The harsh treatment inflicted on Jewish people was especially detrimental to the elderly. The death rate was 67% among those born 1860-79 as against 6% among those born 1890-1909 (non-captured persons).

149 of the remainders were captured by Nazi organizations or by individual Nazis. However, 17 of the captured Jews (11%) were released (or escaped) to freedom outside Nazi controlled territory, thus became "secondary emigrants." 18 were murdered or executed without previous imprisonment of any kind. 18 were detained in custody or in POW camps -- some of them released before the end of the war without subsequent emigration. Five of these 18 died in confinement. All the other 96 persons were sent to some kind of concentration camps, as far as is known. (A few may have died in route.)

The most fortunate among the concentration camp group were the 15 Jews who were permitted to stay at Theresienstadt (which was not a concentration camp proper). Four of these died (three of them 72-74 years old) and 11 survived until liberation. Next comes a group of 20, who were detained in a number of identified camps in Germany, Austria, France and the Netherlands. 11 of these died, 9 survived. (Some of the 17 "secondary emigrants" were in fact also survivors from the categories mentioned.)

The remaining 61 Jews of the "camp group" were either sent to Auschwitz (33 persons), to camps in Poland (13 persons), or to destinations unknown (15 persons). Only four returned alive, all of them from Auschwitz. The other 57 perished or disappeared. What really happened to every one of the 57 missing persons is, of course, impossible to ascertain. The notorious cause of death in these Eastern camps was, of course, organized mass murder. There are, however, also noted seven cases of individual murder or executions. It is also well known that typhoid fever and other diseases took a heavy toll among the internees in the Eastern camps -- just as in the Western ones. (About half of the EstG who died in the Eastern camps were 60 years old or older.) According to Elie Wiesel, an enormous number of evacuated Auschwitz internees died during the 10-day transport in open railway trucks to Buchenwald in January 1945. In Wiesel's truck only a dozen out of a hundred are said to have survived the transport. For every one of the four survivors of the EstG, one would expect several transport victims. We must also consider after-effects of torture, accidents and suicide as occasional causes of death in any concentration camp. Finally there is the possibility that some of the 57 missing ended up in Soviet captivity. Except for the 7 cases of individual murder, no precise figure can be given for the various other causes of death.

Contrary to what would have been expected, it is obvious that only a minor part (fewer than 50) of the EstG Jews who died in Nazi territory (183 in all) were subjected to organized mass murder.

Ridding Europe from Jewish influence on cultural life was one of the declared aims of the anti-Semitic policy of the Third Reich. It appears that primary and secondary emigration -- totalling 334 EstG Jews -- was a much more effective means of attaining this end than was the killing of prominent Jews. However, none of these means was entirely effectual in eliminating the Jewish Establishment on the Continent. When the Third Reich perished, no less than 205 Jews of the EstG (28% of the original number) were still alive in the 12 countries that had been targets of anti-Semitic persecutions on a scale that the world had never beheld.

Auschwitz and the Eastern camps certainly proved to be much more fatal than the rest. Therefore it is noteworthy that as many as about 30% of the EstG remainers from Poland and Czechoslovakia were sent to these camps (including unknown destinations), while only about 18% of those from Austria and Hungary suffered the same fate. And among the EstG from France, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands the proportion was 10-14%, a fact that differentiates those countries from Romania, Denmark, Yugoslavia and Belgium, none of which supplied any EstG internees to the Eastern camps.

Another seeming difference applies to professions. A check on the professions of the 95 persons who died as victims of Nazi activity (Table 5) reveals a higher number of rabbis among them (15) than would have been expected from the fact that only about 10% of the EstG Jews are rabbis. The reason may be that the rabbis in most cases remained with their community

and therefore are seldom to be found among the large, victim-free group of emigrants.

Apart from the differences mentioned above, the German authorities seem to have paid little attention to the standing (in the world of letters, etc.) of the specific Jewish individual. In spite of this, the group of 722 Jews studied here cannot be regarded as a random sample of European Jews in general -- for several reasons.

First, inclusion in the *Encyclopaedia Judaica* may have been influenced by what happened to these individuals during the war.

Secondly, some who wouldn't have qualified for inclusion in 1945 may have been able to distinguish themselves enough -- afterwards - because they happened to survive. (This applies to the youngest category.)

Third, internationally known Jews must have had considerably better opportunities for emigration than Jews without foreign relations. (The best-known Jews are not among the 722 either, because they emigrated long before 1938.) Still, in the countries noted for the highest and the lowest proportion of Jewish emigration, these proportions differ very little between EstG Jews and Jews in general. About 70-80% of all EstG Jews in Austria and Denmark emigrated in 1938-44, and roughly the same percentage applies to the general emigration in the same period of time. In Hungary and Yugoslavia, Jewish emigration reportedly was insignificant, and so was emigration among the EstG from these countries (about 15%).

Fourth, if a well-known Jew left his country (even if secretly) and entered another country (even if illegally), his migration certainly was disclosed in public, sooner or later -- contrary to what might have happened in the multitude of cases of clandestine and illegal migration in general. For similar reasons, the noted Jews could hardly seek rescue by means of changing their identity - a means that was most certainly used by a great but indeterminable number of ordinary Jews.

Finally, Jews of the "Establishment" category (and especially politicians, Zionists and rabbis) often protested or took action against the persecutions. (Many such cases are reported in the *Encyclopaedia*.) Consequently, they may have been arrested and treated according to such political offences in the first place.

The group of 722 treated above consist mostly of Jewish authors, scholars, artists, scientists, rabbis and politicians -- all with some reputation, at least in 1970. They probably are typical for an even larger number of Jews belonging to these same professions, but somewhat less distinguished in 1970. As far as their fates under the Nazi persecutions are concerned, the following general conclusions may be drawn from the present investigation: The members of the group apparently had relatively good opportunities to emigrate or flee in the years 1938-41, and many used them. About one third of those who did not emigrate were taken prisoners by the Nazis. As prisoners they were treated in various ways. It turns out that 13% were released, 28% survived imprisonment and 21% died under circumstances demonstrably excluding organized mass murder. The remaining 38% (7% of the EstG total) probably died from a variety of causes, possibly including gas chambers and most certainly also typhoid fever, starvation, ill-treatment and hypothermia.

It is obvious that wholesale extermination was *not* decreed by the Nazi leadership as a means to rid occupied Europe of prominent Jews, capable of influencing public opinion.

TABLE 1:
Rescue by emigration among 722 "Establishment Group" Jews from 12 European countries

Country	No. of Jews	No. of emigrants according to year of emigration								
		All	-38	-39	-40	-41	-42	-43	-44	-45
France	170	75	1	5	39	23	3	3	1	-
Poland	96	42	1	28	8	5	-	-	-	-
Germany	93	54	17	22	7	6	-	1	1	-
Austria	85	66	50	11	3	2	-	-	-	-
Hungary	64	10	6	2	1	1	-	-	-	-
Italy	63	21	9	10	-	1	-	1	-	-
The Netherlands	49	7	3	2	1	1	-	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia	42	20	6	14	-	-	-	-	-	-
Romania	29	6	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	-
Denmark	13	9	-	1	-	-	-	8	-	-
Yugoslavia	9	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belgium	9	6	-	-	5	1	-	-	-	-
All 12 countries	722	317	93	96	68	42	3	13	2	0

Thereof:

to USA	30	35	36	26
to Engl.	30	23	12	1
to Pales.	20	20	13	5
to USSR	-	16	2	5

TABLE 2:
National Socialist treatment of 405 Jews of the "Establishment Group" from 12 European countries

Country	No. of non-emigrants	Unmolested	Murdered, executed	Arrested (seized)
France	95	68	1	26
Poland	54	23	10	21
Germany	39	22	2	15
Austria	19	6	-	13
Hungary	54	38	3	13
Italy	42	38	-	4
The Netherlands	42	24	1	17
Czechoslovakia	22	9	-	13
Romania	23	20	1	2
Denmark	4	3	-	1
Yugoslavia	8	2	-	6
Belgium	3	3	-	-
All 12 countries.	405	256	18	131

TABLE 3:

National Socialist treatment of 131 arrested Jews of the "Establishment Group" from 12 European countries

Country	No. Of Jews arrested	Released to Foreign country	Taken Into Custody and POW	Western Camps & Theresi.	Eastern Camps & unknown
France	26	4	6	5	11
Poland	21	1	2	2	16
Germany	15	6	3	2	4
Austria	13	3	1	5	4
Hungary	13	-	1	3	9
Italy	4	-	-	-	4
The Netherlands	17	-	1	10	6
Czechoslovakia	13	1	-	5	7
Romania	2	1	-	1	-
Denmark	1	-	-	1	-
Yugoslavia	6	1	4	1	-
Belgium	-	-	-	-	-
All 12 countries	131	17	18	35	61
Thereof					
Died as interned	77	-	5	15	57
Survived	54	17	13	20	4

Note: The heading "Released to Foreign Country" also covers a few POWs who escaped to a foreign country.

The heading "Taken Into Custody and POW" covers POW-camp internees, inmates of jails, hospitals and penal institutions, and persons kept as hostages (notably Léon Blum).

TABLE 4: Presumed year of death of 95 "Establishment Group" Jews from 12 European countries who died as victims of National Socialist action or imprisonment in the period from January, 1939, to April, 1945.

Country	All	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
France	17	-	1	-	2	5	8	1
Poland	27	-	-	2	11	8	3	3
Germany	8	-	-	1	3	2	2	-
Austria	5	-	-	1	2	-	2	-
Hungary	13	-	-	-	-	-	10	3
Italy	4	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
The Netherlands	11	-	-	1	3	4	1	2
Czechoslovakia	8	-	-	1	1	-	6	-
Romania	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Denmark	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Yugoslavia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belgium	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All 12 countries	95	0	1	7	22	22	34	9

Note: The "Presumed Year of Death" may not always represent the real year of death but instead the last year when something was known about the person in question.

Note: The heading "Western Camps" covers the deaths among the 35 Jews who were sent to Theresienstadt and to concentration camps outside Poland.

The heading "Eastern Camps" covers the deaths among the 61 Jews who were sent to Auschwitz, to concentration camps in Poland and to destinations unknown

APPENDIX I

Names and relevant facts of the first 25 EstG Jews:

Abel, Emil, 1875-1958, Austrian chemist, to England in 1938.
Abeles, Otto, 1879-1945, Austrian author and Zionist living in the Netherlands, taken to camp, died after liberation.
Abramowitz, Raphael 1880-1963, Latvian-German politician, to France in 1939, to U.S.A. in 1940.
Adler, Friedrich, 1879-1960, Austrian politician, to U.S.A. in 1939..
Adler, Hugo, 1894-1955, Dutch composer, to U.S.A. about 1938-39.
Adler, Jules, 1865-1952, French artist.
Adler, Paul, 1878-1946, German author, hiding in Czechoslovakia.
Algazi, Leon, 1890-, Romanian composer, living in France.
Almagia, Roberto, 1884-1962, Italian geographer, living in the Vatican.
Almanzi, Joseph, 1901-1960, Italian author.
Alter, Victor, 1890-1941, Polish politician and Jewish leader, to USSR in 1939 (executed there).
Altman, Moishe, 1891-, Romanian poet, to USSR during or after WW II.
Altmann, Alexander, 1906-, Hungarian rabbi, to England in 1938.
Arendt, Hannah, 1906-, German philosopher living in France, to U.S.A. in 1941.
Aronson, Grigori, 1887-1968, Russian author, living in France, to U.S.A. in 1940.
Aronson, Naum, 1872-1943, Latvian sculptor, living in France, to U.S.A. in 1940.
Artom, Elia, 1887-1965, Italian rabbi, to Palestine in 1939.
Ascarelli, Tullio, 1903-1959, Italian jurist, to England in 1938.
Aschaffenberg, Gustav, 1866-1944, German criminologist, to U.S.A. in 1938.
Aschheim, Isidor, 1891-1968, German painter, to Palestine in 1940.
Ascoli, Ettore, 1873-1943, Italian lieutenant general, fell as partisan.
Ashendorf, Israel, 1909-1956, Polish author, to USSR about 1939-40.
Asscher, Abraham, 1880-1955, Dutch Zionist, to Bergen-Belsen camp in 1943.
Bab, Julius, 1880-1955, German literary historian, to U.S.A. in 1940.
Bachi, Armando, 1883-1943, Italian lieutenant general, to Auschwitz in 1943, died there.

APPENDIX II

List of 33 known Jews who were interned in Auschwitz Concentration Camp during part of World War II (name, age and manner of death as given in the Encyclopaedia Judaica).

Bachi, Armado, 60, "died"
Bernstein, Béla, 76, "died"
Blum, René, 66, "died"
Borchardt, Georg, 72, "died" (Entry: Hermann, G.)
Buchler, Alexander, 74, "died"

Cohen, Ernst Julius, 75, "transported to gas chambers"
 Cohen, Isaac Kadmi, 52, "died" (actually at Gleiwitz)
 Duckesz, Eduard, 76, "perished"
 Edelstein, Jacob, c. 50, "shot"
 Fleischman, Gisi, 47, "killed on arrival"
 Fondane, Benjamin, 46, "murdered"
 Frankl, Victor, born 1905, alive in 1970
 Friedemann, Desider, 64, "sent to gas chambers"
 Heyman, Fritz, 44, "killed"
 Hirschel, Levie, 49, (no mention of his death)
 Hirschler, Pal, 37, "died"
 Hirschler, René, 39, "perished"
 Hoffmann, Camill, 66, "died"
 Jakobovits, Tobias, 57, "deported to his death"
 Katzenelson, Itzhak, 58, "perished"
 Lambert, Raymond, 49, "gassed upon arrival"
 Lohner, Fritz, 59, "died" (Entry: Beda, F)
 Nadel, Arno, 65, "murdered"
 Pollak, Miksa, 76, "killed"
 Salomon, Erich, 58, "died in the gas chambers"
 Spiegel, Isaiah, born 1906, alive in 1970
 Stein, Edith, 51, "died in the gas chambers"
 Steiner, Hannah, 50, "died in the gas chambers"
 Stricker, Robert, 65, "Transported to the gas chambers"
 Szenes, Erzsi, born 1902, alive in 1970
 Taussig, Friedrich, 35, "died after torture" (Entry: Fritta)
 Varshavsky, Oizer, 46, "sent to Auschw. for extermination"
 Wygodzki, Stanislaw, born 1907, alive in 1970

(The encyclopedia gives 1942 as the year of death in three cases, 1943 in five cases and 1944 in 21 cases.)

Note: This list contains real names wherever possible; *Encyclopaedia Judaica* has entered three Jews who were interned at Auschwitz under the pen names noted above (after "Entry:").

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