

KEY DATES

Re:

THE FINAL SOLUTION

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Table: Key dates

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1930 - 1938	Stalin's Purge - during Joseph Stalin's reign of terror in Russia and in the Soviet Republics (1930-1938), his regime killed or starved an estimated 15 million peasants, 5 million Ukrainians, 200,000 Jews, and as many as 3 million "enemies of the state". The total could be as many as 23.2 million victims.
1933 (January)	Hitler becomes chancellor of a coalition government
1933 (March)	The Enabling Act passed - powers of legislation pass to Hitler's cabinet for four years, making him a virtual dictator
1933 (March - April)	1st set of Anti-Jewish legislation enacted
1933 (July)	Sterilization Law for the "Prevention of Hereditarily Diseased Offspring"
1935 (September)	2nd set of Anti-Jewish Legislation enacted - "Nuremberg Laws"
1938 (November)	3rd set of Anti-Jewish Legislation enacted
1939 (October) - 1940 (April)	Nisko and Lublin Plan (1st Jews Transported - October, 1939. Plan cancelled April 1940)
1939	In a 1939 conference with health minister Leonardo Conti and the head of the Reich Chancellery, Hans Lammers, a few months before the euthanasia decree, Hitler gave as examples of "life unworthy of life" severely mentally ill people who could only be bedded on sawdust or sand because they "perpetually dirtied themselves", or who "put their own excrement into their mouths, eating it and so on".

1939 (October) - 1941 (August)	The "T4" Euthanasia Program - In October 1939, the German government established, under the Reich Chancellery, the <i>Euthanasie Programme</i> under the direction of Philip Bouhler and Dr. Karl Brandt. As well as killing patients from mental homes, nursing homes and sanatoria, Euthanasia centres were also used to kill prisoners transferred from concentration camps in Germany and Austria.
1940 (Summer)	Madagascar Plan - Cancelled October, 1940 because of defeat in the "Battle of Britain" (10 July 1940 - 31 October 1940)
1941 (July)	In July 1941 Hermann Goering ordered Reinhard Heydrich to coordinate a plan for the "Final Solution." Heydrich's Einsatzgruppen had been murdering Russian Jews by firing squad since the war against the Soviets started in 1941. However, this was not a suitable way to kill the Jews outside the war zone. Thus, Reinhard Heydrich had to create something "new". In November 1941 extermination camps in Chelmno and Belzec were already being built with facilities for murder by poison.
1941 (07 December) - 1943 (March)	Chelmno - 1st extermination camp (Poland) operational. The camp began operations 07 December 1941, and ended operations March 1943. It resumed operations 23 June 1944, and finally ceased operations 17 January 1945. The estimated number of deaths is 150-300,000, mainly Jews. Chelmno operated three gas vans using carbon monoxide (tested in the T4 Euthanasia program).
1942 (20 January)	Wannsee Conference (Final Solution) - originally called for 09 December 1941
1942 (March to November 1944)	Auschwitz operational
1945 (30 April)	Death of Hitler

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