

# The Holocaust 4ESO History

## What do you know about the Holocaust?

### Vocabulary

Arrested	Detenido/capturado
Deported	Deportar
Aryan	Ario/a
Boycott	Boicotear/Boicot
Propaganda	Propaganda
Polarization	divergencia/polarización
Ghetto	Gueto/judería/suburbio
Survivor	Supervivente

## Who were the victims?



### Other Victims

- Roma or gypsy people
- People that did not have "Aryan blood"
- People with physical/mental illness
- Prisoners of war
- Homosexuals
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Unemployed, homeless, drug/alcohol addicts, etc.

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One thing became the victims' whole identity and that thing made them unworthy of life

## Stages of the Holocaust

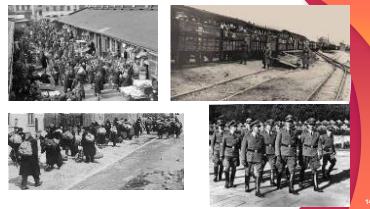
### Classification, discrimination, dehumanization

- Us vs. Them
- Star of David
- Jews lose German citizenship
- No intermarriage
- Jewish businesses boycotted/closed
- Hate propaganda



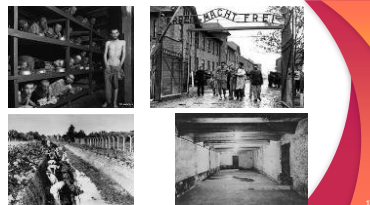
### Polarization and preparation

- Ghettoisation
- Gestapo
- Deportation
- Transportation



### Persecution and execution

- Arrests
- Starvation/deprivation of needs
- Concentration camps
- Mass murder
- "The Final Solution"



## Survivor's Stories

### Survivor's Stories

- Read your survivor's story
- Fill in information about your survivor on the worksheet
- Introduce your survivor to the class



## Hester Kool

*"[She] says to me 'I can get you into hiding because eventually they will get you also.' So she got me a false passport and I had to go on the train and I had to meet this gentleman in a church..." - Hester Kool*

Hester (Waas) Kool was born in Amsterdam, Holland and grew up in the small town of Zandvoort. The Nazis invaded in May 1940, and in 1942, Hester's father, mother, and brother were detained in Amsterdam's opera house, deported to Westerbork transit camp and then Auschwitz. With the help of her

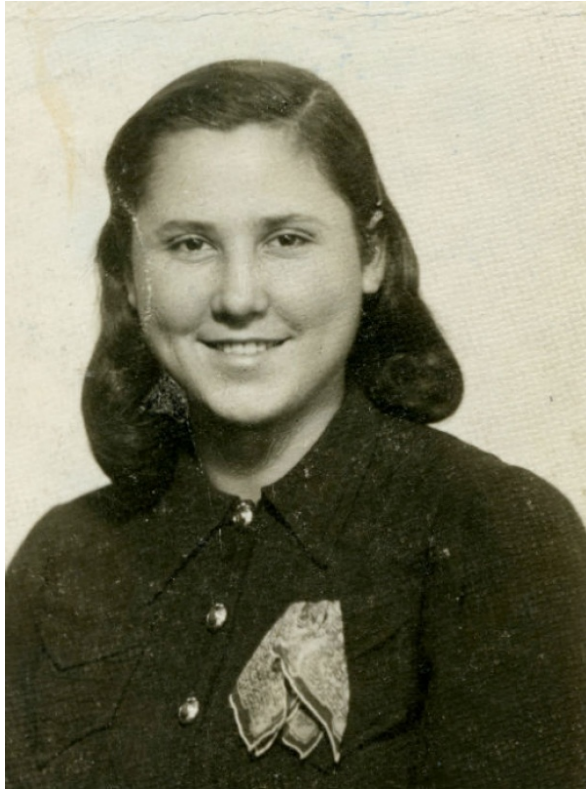
friend who was part of the Dutch Resistance, Hester went into hiding with the van Westering family, where she stayed for more than two years.

"The van Westering family had three children, and my duties involved taking care of them and cleaning the house. I was not allowed to leave the house. I ate alone and slept in a room in the attic. I was very lonely."

When the war ended, Hester learned the terrible reality that her parents and brother had been killed. An uncle in the United States offered to bring her to the U.S., but Mr. van Westering refused to give her permission to leave. She eventually ran away, later meeting up with family members who had earlier escaped to New York. She arrived in Hoboken, New Jersey in July 1947 after ten seasick days on the Atlantic. A month after arriving, she met Sam. They married the following May, raising a family of three children. Hester later moved to Seattle with her husband in 1990 to and for became an active member of the Holocaust Center Humanity's Speakers Bureau.



Hester  
later  
for



## Magda Schaloum

*"I hugged my mother and I kissed her, and I said, 'Mom, I'll see you later.' But of course I have never seen my mother again." - Magda Schaloum*

Magda Schaloum was born in 1922 in Gyor, Hungary. The Germans occupied Hungary on March 19, 1944, and then deported Magda, her brother, and their mother to Auschwitz and separated the family. Magda was sent to the slave labor camp of Plaszow, and then to a factory in Augsburg, Germany. In April 1945 at the Mühldorf slave labor camp, Magda met her future husband, Izak, a Sephardic native of Salonika, Greece. The Nazis loaded the prisoners of Mühldorf onto a cattle car to be transported to a site where they would be murdered, but the Allies liberated the prisoners before the train reached its destination.

Magda and Izak met again in a displaced persons camp in Germany. She spoke five languages, and he spoke seven, but none in common. They fell in love, married, and came to Seattle in 1951 with their two young children to start a new life together. They had a third child and settled on Mercer Island. Magda was a member of the Holocaust Center's Speakers Bureau for many years, and her son Jack continues to share her story today. Magda passed away in 2015.







## Fred Khan

*"Stutthof was a camp with over 100,000 people. People of all races, all nationalities, anybody who did anything against the Nazi regime was in there. There were murderers in there, there were homosexuals in there...Jews as well as non-Jews. The crematorium in this camp was burning day and night, day and night. Oh, we knew what was going on." - Fred Kahn*

Fred was born on May 25, 1924, in Laubenheim, Germany, a small village in the Rhine Valley. In November 1938, on Kristallnacht, Fred and his father were arrested for the first time. When they were released, the family moved to Cologne to live amongst strangers, hoping no one would recognize them as Jews. However, in December 1941, the Gestapo forced them onto the first

non-Latvian transport to the ghetto of Riga, Latvia. Over the next 3 ½ years, Fred was imprisoned at the Salaspils and Stutthof concentration camps, where he performed hard labor for up to 18 hours per day and survived many near-death experiences.

After being liberated on March 10, 1945, he returned to Germany to find that most of his family had been killed. However, his brother Eric had fled Nazi Germany in 1939 and lived in Chicago, and his aunt and uncle Meta and Ludwig Stern lived in Seattle. They sponsored Fred's immigration to the United States in August 1950. When he arrived in Seattle, he thought, "I never saw a city so beautiful...I really fell in love. This town's for me." He became a small business owner as a grocer and, later, a meat wholesaler. He married Esther Chiprut on January 12, 1952, with whom he had three daughters: Erna, Vivan, and Susan; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Fred passed away on January 22, 2018.





## Thomas Blatt

*"We had no dreams of liberation. We hoped merely to destroy the camp and to die from bullets rather than from gas. We would not make it easy for the Germans." – Thomas Blatt, From the Ashes of Sobibor, 1997*

Thomas "Toivi" Blatt was born in Izbica, a small town near Lublin, Poland. After the Nazi occupation of his town in 1939, Blatt escaped from the ghetto in Izbica, but was caught and imprisoned at the age of 15. He managed to escape from the prison and return to Izbica.

On April 28, 1943, the Nazis deported Blatt and his family to the Sobibor death camp. There, his father, mother, and little brother were separated from him and murdered. One of the SS officers picked Blatt out and said, "You will be my shoeshine boy." This meant that Blatt joined the group of slave laborers in the camp.

In Sobibor, Blatt became a member of the camp's Jewish resistance group. He was designated to run messages during a planned revolt. On October 14, 1943, the prisoner revolt resulted in the killing of nearly all the Nazi staff and allowed over 300 (out of the 600 who attempted escape) fellow slave laborers to break free. Unfortunately, many of these escapees lost their lives on the minefields surrounding the camp. Of the 300 who escaped, only 54 survived to the end of the war.

Blatt and two young fellow prisoners were among those who successfully escaped. They found refuge with a farmer who agreed to hide them for the money. However, the three boys were eventually betrayed and mercilessly shot. Blatt, left for dead with a bullet in his jaw, managed to escape.

Blatt dedicated his life to accurately preserving the memory of the more than 250,000 Jews whom the Nazis murdered at the Sobibor death camp. He regularly returned to Europe to appear on talk shows, give lectures, and continue his research. He was depicted by an actor in the award-winning made-for-television movie called "Escape from Sobibor," and acted as chief adviser for the film.

Blatt traveled to Munich in 2011, in spite of his failing health, to testify in the trial of former Sobibor SS guard Ivan (John) Demjanjuk. His compelling courtroom testimony helped prosecutors in Munich win Demjanjuk's conviction on more than 28,000 counts of serving as an accessory to murder.

Thomas Blatt lived in Seattle for more than 20 years and was a member of the Holocaust Center for Humanity's Speakers Bureau. He later moved to Santa Barbara to live with his daughter. Blatt passed away in October, 2015.







## Stella DeLeon

*"For all the time I was in the camps, in Auschwitz and everything, I always had the feeling, 'I'm going to survive. I'm going to get out of here.' But by the middle of April [1945], I figured, no way I can survive and get out, especially after my little sister died...I said, out loud, '[There]'s no God. God won't let us suffer like this.' And, believe it or not, a miracle happened. That afternoon, the camp was liberated." - Stella DeLeon*

Stella was born to a large Sephardic family on the island of Rhodes in 1926. In July 1944, the Nazis deported 1,700 Jews from Rhodes to Auschwitz, including Stella, her seven siblings, and their parents. From their 2,000-year-old Jewish community, only 151 Jews survived, including Stella and her sister Flora. Tragically, their sister Janetta died of typhoid just three days before liberation. On April 15, 1945, Stella and Flora were liberated by British soldiers in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp and then made their way to Rome.

In December 1945, a cousin in Los Angeles found the girls' names on a list of survivors and sponsored them to come to America in 1947. Stella lived in Los Angeles for two years before meeting her future husband, Ralph DeLeon while on a trip to Seattle. They were married within six weeks, and Seattle became her home. Stella was a member of the Ezra Bessaroth Sephardic synagogue and was a part of the Holocaust Center for Humanity's Speakers Bureau. Stella and Ralph had two children, whom they named Rochelle and Jack in memory of Stella's beloved siblings. Stella passed away in 2001.





*"In March of 1939, my parents took me to a train station in Berlin for the trip to Hamburg. From there, I boarded a ship to Southampton, England, along with hundreds of other Jewish boys and girls. I didn't know then whether I would see my family again...." - Steve Adler*

Stephen (Steve) Adler was born in Berlin, Germany in 1930. He was the younger son in a middle-class, Jewish family. At age 7, he was forced to leave his neighborhood school and to enter a Jewish private school. In the wake of Kristallnacht, the SS and Gestapo arrested more than 30,000 Jewish males including Steve's father.

Over the next few months, conditions for Jews continued to deteriorate. In January of 1939, the Nazi government required all Jews to carry identity cards revealing their heritage, and danger became much more immediate for Steve and his family. In March 1939, three months after his father's release from Sachsenhausen, Steve was sent by train to Hamburg to join a Kindertransport, or children's transport, going to England by ship. Steve arrived in

England knowing only one sentence in English. He was placed in a small house with a new family. In the spring of 1940 he was reunited with his brother and that summer, they met their parents again and traveled by ship to the United States, settling in Chicago.

Steve earned a Ph.D. in Chemistry at Northwestern University, and he and his wife Judy had two daughters. He lived in Seattle and was an active member of the Holocaust Center's Speakers Bureau until he passed away on April 3, 2019.

