



French Children of the Holocaust A Memorial Exhibition

Study Guide

Prepared by Holocaust Survivors
& Friends Education Center for the
French Children of the Holocaust
A Memorial Exhibition

*Ginette Cukier had her sixth birthday on December 19, 1941. Therefore, as of June 6, 1942, she was required to wear a yellow star. Her little sister Irene did not have to wear one; she was only four. They were born in Paris and lived at 11 rue Samson (13th arr.). They were deported on **convoy 20** of August 17, 1942 with their mother Fanny.*

Lessons FOR HUMANITY

STUDY GUIDE

Presented by Union College and
Holocaust Survivors & Friends Education Center

Mandeville Gallery, Nott Memorial, Union College
March 15 – April 23, 1998

Teaching about the Holocaust and Human Rights:

How Prejudice Led to Genocide

Lessons for Humanity presents two international photographic educational exhibitions, **French Children of the Holocaust: A Memorial** and **Of Light Amidst the Darkness**. Through an exploration of the history of the Holocaust, students will explore the step by step process leading to the genocide, how it affected the personal lives of children, rescue efforts, stories of survivors and action today to combat modern day discrimination. The stories emphasize the innocence of children in the face of the horror of what can happen when hate and intolerance prevail. The message is that rejection and prevention of hatred must begin at an early stage. Each of us has a personal responsibility to build a more tolerant community.



Serge and Beate Klarsfeld

are private citizens who wield neither political nor police power. Yet for more than 30 years in their search for justice for victims of the Holocaust, they have carried out remarkable, effective, thoughtfully conceived research projects - as well as their better-known dramatic acts of moral symbolism.

In the early 1970s, the Klarsfelds focused global attention on Klaus Barbie, the former Gestapo officer known as the "Butcher of Lyon", then in his comfortable Bolivian hiding place. They persevered in a lonely, ten-year campaign to bring Barbie to justice. *But that was not enough. "Twenty years ago," writes Klarsfeld, "when reconstructing the lists of Jews deported to death from France, I found that some of the deported children were listed only by number - the infants were too young to know or say their names - and I felt a deep shame that they died nameless to the world. At first I was gripped with an obsession to know all their names and to discover the places where they lived. Eventually I had an obsession to know their faces."* Klarsfeld's work helps us know their faces, and shows by example the power of that research.

French Children of the Holocaust: A Memorial Exhibition

The children in this exhibit are among the more than 11,400 children whose lives are chronicled in French Children of the Holocaust, by Serge Klarsfeld. Through this exhibition students will learn about the tools used by the Klarsfelds to conduct their research: historical documents, letters, convoy lists, and, finally, photos.

This educational guide is designed to enhance the viewing of the Exhibition. "French Children of the Holocaust" is primarily a photographic exhibition. The guide encourages visitors to become critical viewers using the tools of the historian to learn the history, participate in the restoration of memory of the children and consider their legacy.

The Study Guide corresponds with the main sections of the **French Children of the Holocaust Memorial Exhibition:**

1. **History:** The Occupation of France and the Vichy Regime
2. **Memory:** The Tragedy of French Children in the Holocaust
"Here each child has a story" *Serge Klarsfeld*
3. **Action:** The Work of Beate and Serge Klarsfeld "I publish this book hoping it will strike a blow against anti-Semitism, racism, and xenophobia."

"After years of searching, of asking..., I have found photographs of more than 2,500 of these lost children. Here are their names, addresses, birth dates, and the truth about what happened to all of these children. Their biographies are brief because their lives were brief. On behalf of the few survivors of their families, this.... is their collective gravestone."

Serge Klarsfeld from the Preface to French Children of the Holocaust A Memorial
NYU Press, 1996

Looking at history through photographs

Think about when the photograph was taken. Look at information with the photograph, the caption, the documents and stories with the photo.

Describe

What do you see?

Analyze:

Who is in the photograph and how is it put together

Interpret:

What is the message?

Helene and Elie Magier were born in Paris. They were, respectively, 11 and 10 years old. They lived at 81 rue de Flandre (19th arr.) and were deported on **convoy 20** of August 17, 1942.



Chronology

1940

July 22, 1940 - The Vichy government decides to review all naturalizations, especially those of Jews.

August 27, 1940 - Vichy revokes the law of 1939 that banned anti-Semitic propaganda.

September 27, 1940 - The Germans order a census of Jews and Jewish-owned shops and businesses in the Occupied Zone. The Jewish census index will be instrumental in drawing up lists for arrest and deportation. The census, carried out by French authorities, registers around 150,000 Jews in Paris, and 20,000 for the rest of the Occupied Zone. About one-half of the Jews are of foreign origin (not born in France). The census in the Unoccupied Zone, carried out in the second half of 1941, registers about 140,000 Jews.

October 3, 1940 - The Vichy government enacts a "Statute des Juifs," France's first overtly anti-Semitic law. As a Jew, Vichy considers *any person descended from three grandparents of Jewish race, or from two if the spouse is also a Jew.*

October 4, 1940 - Vichy law makes it legal for the French police to arrest *any foreigner of the Jewish race.*

Historical Summary

On September 1, 1939, the German attack on Poland precipitated the outbreak of World War II, which lasted six years and resulted in the deaths of millions of people. As the late historian Lucy Davidowicz pointed out, there was a war within a war—the National Socialist (Nazi) systematic campaign to murder European Jewry. By the spring of 1945, when the Allied powers forced Germany to surrender, almost six million Jews had been murdered in ghettos, concentration camps and death camps. The mass murder of Jews has become known as the Holocaust.

A central belief among the Nazis was that Jews were an inferior race and the source of all weaknesses in modern German history. The health of the Reich, according to Nazi ideology, depended on the elimination of Jews from the social, economic and cultural life of Germany. After the Nazis came to power in Germany in 1933, they launched a campaign to liberate Germany from Jews, with anti-semitic legislation and propaganda.

The Nazi hatred of Jews knew no frontiers. The countries bordering Germany, especially France, were reviled as "rotten" with Jewish influence. Once Poland was subdued in September 1939, the Germans prepared for a western offensive and, in the spring of 1940, one western power after another succumbed to the German war machine. France capitulated in mid-June after four weeks of fighting. The exhibition, *French Children of the Holocaust: A Memorial*, focuses on France during the Holocaust, in particular the fate of the 11,402 Jewish children deported from France between 1942 and 1944. Photographs and artifacts of hundreds of these deportees constitute the core of the exhibition.

The Occupation of France and the Vichy Regime

The armistice ratifying France's surrender to Germany was signed June 25, 1940. According to the agreement, France was divided into two zones - an Occupied Zone under German control in the northern half of the country and an Unoccupied Zone, also known as Vichy or the "Free Zone," under French control in the southern half. The German Military Headquarters in Paris administered all security matters in the Occupied Zone. Paris also housed the German Embassy and the headquarters for the German security and intelligence apparatus known as the SiPo-SD (Security Police and Security Service) and the Gestapo (German Secret Police).

The Unoccupied Zone in the south effectively controlled French governmental institutions in both zones, although it was subject to a German veto in all matters affecting the course of the war. Philippe Petain, a well respected war hero in his eighties, was the Premier of the Vichy Government; Pierre Laval, the Premier of Vichy in mid 1940 and again in 1942, was intent on making a "national revolution" that would do away with the republican past and find an important place for France in Nazi Germany's new order.

Map showing division of France and principal camps where Jews were interned



1941

March 29, 1941 - A Vichy decree creates a Ministry for Jewish Affairs with the special task to liquidate Jewish possessions.

May 14, 1941 - First mass roundup of Jews in Paris, carried out by French police: 3,700 men, most of Polish origin, are interned in two French camps near Paris, Pithiviers and Beaune-La-Rolande.

August 20, 1941 - Second mass roundup of Jews in Paris by French police on demand from German military authorities. The 4,232 Jews arrested, all men aged 18 to 50, are of various nationalities, and more than 1,000 are French. They are interned in the Drancy camp, just outside Paris, where they are subjected to maltreatment and starvation by French police and gendarmes.

Vichy France and the War against the Jews

From its inception, the Vichy Government demonstrated its hostility toward Jews, especially those born abroad. This attitude is reflected in the series of anti-Jewish measures enacted in the summer and fall of 1940 without prompting from the German government. The Vichy Regime also established concentration camps based on an earlier network of internment camps for refugees.

Pressure from the German authorities intensified the anti-Jewish measures throughout France. French officials were required to conduct a census of Jews in the Occupied Zone during late 1940; six months later a census was required in Vichy. Also during 1941, Vichy was required to establish a ministry for Jewish affairs, a special police for Jewish affairs, and a Jewish umbrella organization similar to those created in other occupied areas, the Union Generale des Israelites de France (UGIF). Mass arrests of Jews began less than a year after the German occupation. The first occurred in May 1941 and two months later thousands of men were arrested and sent to Drancy, an internment camp set up in an unfinished housing project outside Paris.

During 1942, the war against the Jews in all of occupied Europe accelerated. The Wannsee Conference, held outside Berlin in late January 1942, established a blueprint for carrying out "The Final Solution to the Jewish Question." Europe was to be made free of Jews, and Jews from all parts of occupied Europe were to be rounded up and sent to death camps in the East. Within two months of the historic meeting, Jews were being deported from France to Auschwitz, and, by June 1942, plans were underway for an intensified scale of arrests.

Leaders of the Vichy Government wanted to cooperate with German officials in implementing the "Final Solution," but they were reluctant to have French police arrest Jews who held French citizenship. Thus, by June 1942, Helmut Knochen, head of SiPo-SD, and René Bousquet, head of the national police force, agreed that the French police would be allowed to arrest some 22,000 stateless Jews in Paris; French Jews were to be spared arrest. Laval not only endorsed this agreement, but agreed that the children of stateless Jews living in Vichy could be rounded up for deportation to the East.

The Bousquet-Knochen agreement resulted in mass arrests of Jews

in Paris; between July 16 and September 1942, 33,057 Jews were deported in three convoys a week. Each convoy carried approximately 1,000 Jews. The most well known of these roundups occurred on July 16-17, when 13,152 Jews, including more than 4,000 children, from Paris and suburbs were arrested and herded on buses to be brought to the Velodrome d'Hiver, the indoor sports and bicycling stadium in Paris. The children were taken to Drancy and then Auschwitz where the gas chamber and crematorium waited. This relieved Vichy officials of finding ways to care for these children.

In November 1942, German officials took over both zones and the autonomy of Vichy disappeared. Throughout 1943 and 1944, as the war progressed and an Allied victory seemed more and more likely, French police became reluctant to participate in the mass roundups of Jews. French public opinion objected to the treatment of Jews, and a growing number of ordinary French men and women engaged in saving Jews. Nevertheless, the Germans sustained their efforts to carry out the "Final Solution" in France: 17,000 were deported in 1943 and 15,000 in 1944. As seen in the exhibition, officials such as Klaus Barbie and Aloïs Brunner accelerated efforts to make France "judenrein" free of Jews; former distinctions between foreign born and French Jews blurred.

In all, the Germans deported more than 75,700 Jews from France. Only 2,564 of the French deportees survived the war. If we include Jews who died of malnutrition and disease in French camps, there were almost 80,000 victims of the "Final Solution" in France, representing a quarter of the 325,000 Jews who had been living in France at the start of the war. Among the deportees were 11,174 children on 75 major deportation convoys that left France for Auschwitz and other death camps. In addition, 228 children from the Departments of the Nord and Pas de Calais were deported through Belgium. Thus, a total of 11,402 children were deported from France; perhaps 300 child deportees survived the camps.

What can we learn about this girl from her identity card?

N° 413 SÉRIE :

PRÉFECTURE D'INDRE-&LOIRE

Carte d'identité

ANNEE

Nom : HORNWITZ
Prénoms : Anny- Yolande
Profession : sans
Né le 2 Juin 1933
à STRASBOURG
Département d' du Bas Rhin
Domicile : 21, rue Rode - BORDEAUX (Gironde)

Signature :

A TOURS le 4 Décembre 1940
Le Préfet,

Taille :
Cheveux : blond
Moustache :
Yeux : bleus
Signes particuliers :

Nez : rec.
Forme générale du visage : all.
Teint : rosé
Corp. : moy.

Signature : Anny Hornwicz

Empreinte digitale :

MAIRIE - BORDEAUX - GIRONDE

November 29, 1941 - Vichy creates one single organization for Jews, the Union Generale des Israelites de France (UGIF). All other nonreligious Jewish organizations are dissolved.

December 12, 1941 - Third roundup of Jewish men in Paris. The 743 Jews arrested are mostly upper middle-class French citizens: professionals, businessmen and executives. They are transferred to Compiegne.

1942

January 1942 - Wannensee conference

March 27, 1942 - First deportation train from France to Auschwitz. Of the 1,112 prisoners, 1,008 are dead by end of August 1942.

June 6, 1942 - All Jews in the Occupied Zone aged 6 or older are required to wear a yellow star.

July 8, 1942 - In the Occupied Zone, all public places are forbidden to Jews, who are under curfew 8:00 p.m.-8:00 a.m. Shopping is allowed between 3:00-4:00 p.m. Jews can now be arrested at any time.

July 16, 1942 - 13,000 Jews 4,000 of them children arrested in Paris and assembled in the Vélodrome d'Hiver, an indoor bicycle stadium

August 23, 1942 - Archbishop of Toulouse calls on Vichy in a pastoral letter to refuse to carry out measures wanted by the Germans.

August 26, 1942 - Roundup of Jews in the Unoccupied Zone begins; 6,584 arrested.

October 9, 1942 - French police hunt for children and other Jews in rural areas of the Occupied Zone at the request of the Germans.

November 11, 1942 - German military occupies all of France except south-eastern provinces occupied by the Italians

December 31, 1942 - 41,951 Jews have already been deported from France. 24,361 immediately put to death in gas chambers. Only 784 men and 21 women deported in 1942 survive the war.

continued on Page 17

Vichy: Installation of the French Anti-Jewish State

The Exhibition traces the development of Nazism in Germany and its adaptation in France. What was the process of dehumanization of the Jewish population?



French policeman saluting German Nazi officer near the Arc de Triomphe

Germany conquered France in May 1940. The Armistice was signed June 25, 1940 dividing France into two zones - an Occupied Zone under German control in the northern half of the country and an Unoccupied Zone, also known as the Vichy or "Free Zone" under French control in the southern half.

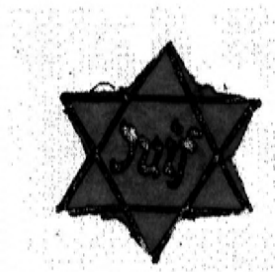
Connections:

Why is the French policeman saluting the German Nazi officer?
Would you call the French policeman a Nazi sympathizer?



Anti-Semitic propaganda in the Paris subway from the "Institute for Research of Jewish Problems: a vulture is about to devour Marianne, the symbol for the French nation, 1941."

The Yellow Star



Connections:

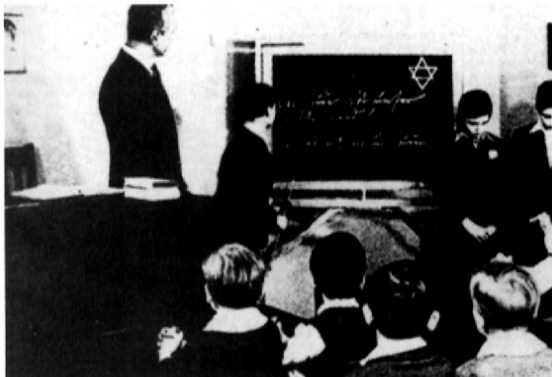
Study the story of the Cukier family on the cover. Approximately when was this photo taken?

Why do you think the government forced Jews to wear this marking?
Study the various markings used.

May 29, 1942 German authorities in France publish regulations adopted the previous day requiring Jews in the Occupied Zone to wear a yellow star.

The wearing of the yellow star was never imposed on Jews in the Unoccupied Zone, even after the Germans occupied all of France later in 1942.

The Holocaust was the systematic murder of six million Jews and millions of other people by the Nazi government & their collaborators. The destruction process began by defining, locating, labelling, isolating & ultimately killing the victims.



Jewish children were humiliated in front of the classroom. The blackboard reads, "The Jew is our greatest enemy. Beware of the Jews!"

Connections:

What is a negative stereotype? How are Jews made into the "enemy?"



Behind barbed wire in Vichy camp of Gurs, the first French internment camp, in Basses-Pyrenees.

Arrest and Deportation of Children

In December 1940 a total of 470 deaths are counted in the camp at Gurs primarily from the hunger and cold.

Connections: Why would a baby be imprisoned ?



The only known photograph of the Velodrome d'Hiver indoor bicycling stadium at the time of the roundups by French police. It was taken on July 16, 1942, when thousands of Jewish families were arrested in their homes and on the streets of Paris and brought there. The arrests for the two days July 16 though 17, 1942: 12,884 - 3,031 men, 5,802 women, and 4,051 children.

Connections:

In your tour of the exhibition, note the children who were arrested in the Vel d'Hiv roundup.



Sarah Lichstein

Sarah Lichstein describes her arrest, the conditions at the Vel d'Hiv, and her escape from the stadium. *There, what a strange, heartbreaking sight! On the track where cyclists normally ride, people are sitting on their suitcases, terrified, disoriented. Some of them are running every which way and shouting, but most of us just sit there silently, as if paralyzed by anxiety, not understanding what is happening to us. People recognize each other and shout out the details of what they saw during their arrest; a woman threw herself from a fifth story, a man hanged himself, a mother was torn from her children, they fired on people who were trying to escape. I listen terrified, and watch people being carried in on stretchers: the sick the crippled, amputees. But we had been told we were being sent to work in Germany. How did they plan to use these unfortunate souls? ... what of the future? The brutality of the police is revolting. We were not accustomed to such treatment in France."*

Sarah's mother urges her to try to escape, which she does, finding that her mother was able to escape as well. *"Without a word, we run to the apartment of our friends, who receive us with tears and close the door behind us. After spending nearly two years in relative freedom, we were denounced and deported to Auschwitz. But that's another chapter, too long and too painful, so I'll end my poor recollection here."*



The **Ostbaum** family was arrested during the Vel d'Hiv roundup, at 33 Villa Faucheur, where they lived in the 20th arr. in Paris. Their father, Chaskiel, was the first of the family to be deported, on **convoy 13** of July 31, 1942. He had just escaped from a camp in Germany where he had been a prisoner of war (he had volunteered for army service). Their mother, Gendla, was the next, on **convoy 14**, on August 3. The children, **Camille**, aged 10, and **Henriette**, 6, both born in Paris, were then deported on **convoy 21** of August 19, 1942.

Connections:

Study the chronology on pages 2, 3, 4, 17 and list the laws which isolated and dehumanized the Jews in France. Discuss how prejudice can lead to genocide.

“Here each child has a story” Serge Klarsfeld



Adele and Paulette Nitka were born in Paris, where they lived at 102 rue Oberkampf (11th arr.). Adele was 9 years and Paulette, 2. They were deported on **convoy 22** of August 21, 1942.



Henri Gilburt was born on August 16, 1930, in Paris. He was deported on August 21, 1942, on **convoy 22**. He lived at 15 rue La Vieuville in Paris (18th arr.).



Chana Roze was born on January 10, 1926, and her sister **Myriam** on June 5, 1927, both in Kielce, Poland. Chana was deported first with her parents, Wigdor and Estera, on **convoy 15** of August 5, 1942. Myriam was put on **convoy 22** of August 21, 1942. The family lived at 46 rue Amelot in Paris (11th arr.).

Jean-Pierre Guckenheimer was born on November 30, 1935, in Paris. He was arrested in Nice, where he lived at 6 rue Murat with his parents, Ernst and Herta, and his grandfather, Markus. All four were deported on **convoy 62** of November 20, 1943.



Albert Kaczka was born on April 22, 1933, in Paris. He was arrested with his parents, Szmul and Rywka, at 8 rue des Panoyaux during the Vel d'Hiv roundup, and deported on **convoy 20** of August 17, 1942. His father was sent to Auschwitz on **convoy 13** and his mother on **convoy 14**.

“...More than 50 years have passed since the murders of these beautiful children - for they are all beautiful in my eyes - who once played in the streets of Paris, Marseilles, Lyons, Nice and other French cities and villages you may know. It has taken so long for many people in France to confront what happened here, to these children from our neighborhoods and towns and cities. And perhaps it is time to share this with others so they may know how these terrible events happened and come to know some of the young victims, arrested in the streets you will find if you visit France....” Serge Klarsfeld



Jean Landau was born in 1933 in Paris, where he lived in rue Notre-Dame-de-Nazareth (3rd arr.). Arrested with his mother, Lucienne, during the Vel d'Hiv roundup, they were deported, but their convoy number has not been found.



Paul Gobert was 14 years old when he was deported on **convoy 16** of August 7, 1942. He was born on April 2, 1928, in Paris, where he lived at 17 passage Alexandre (11th arr.). The picture was taken on April 25, 1941, the day of his Bar Mitzvah.



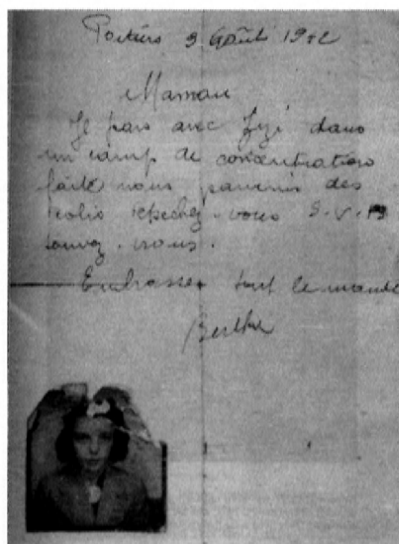
Emile Messyngier was 3 years old. He was born in Paris on March 10, 1939, and lived at 52 Avenue Jean-Jaures (19th arr.). Arrested with his mother during the Vel d'Hiv roundup, he was forcibly separated from her when she was deported on **convoy 16** of August 7, 1942. Emile followed her on **convoy 24** of August 26, 1942. His father, Charles, who had been interned on May 14, 1941, was deported on **convoy 5** on June 28, 1942, and survived.



Joseph Reiss died at the Gurs camp. His wife, Haya-Sura, and their four daughters had fled to Angoulême (Charente), 7 rue du Chapeau-Rouge. The mother and the two younger daughters - **Riwka-Regine**, born on April 14, 1934, in Stiring-Wendel (Moselle), and **Frieda**, born in Angoulême on February 15, 1942 - were arrested on October 9, 1942, and transferred to Drancy. Their deportation took place on **convoy 47** of February 11, 1943. Frieda was murdered in Auschwitz either the day before or the day of her 1st birthday. The two older girls, **Rachel**, who is holding Frieda on her lap, and **Annie**, to her left, escaped arrest.

The Holocaust Children Who Did Not Grow Up....

One by one by one.



Berthe Haut was born on March 27, 1930 in Paris; she lived at 16 impasse Gandelet (11th arr.). Transferred from the Poitiers camp to Drancy and then to Pithiviers, she was deported on September 21, 1942, on **convoy 35**. Her father and her older brother had been deported on **convoys 2 and 3**, respectively.

On September 8, 1942 she wrote from Pithiviers: "... you know that your little Berthe is a courageous girl and that she can take the consequences, . . . I would like photos of the whole family, even ones I 've already seen. I want the one of Papa, Maman with Raymonde, the last one where she looks so cute, Madeleine in her little identity photos, darling Henri in his identity photos. . . photos, please, for me they are more than food. Photos, sil vous plait, they are everything to me."

Why do you think photos "are more than food" for Berthe?



Jacques Friedmann was 12 years old when he was deported on **convoy 55** of June 23, 1943, with his parents his two brothers - Salomon, age 16; and Bernard, 10- and three sisters- Frida, 14; Rachel, 8 ; and Olga, 6. Rachel, Olga and Bernard were born in Metz (Moselle), and Frida and Salomon in Ruthenia. Their parents, David and Fanny, were Czech. The family fled to Poitiers, where they lived at 7 rue de la Croix-Rouge. They were arrested on March 19, 1943 , and interned in the Poitiers camp.



Jacques wrote to his former teacher on March 25th, 1943:

Dear Sir: We have been in the camp of Limoges since 7 o'clock Friday morning. From here I thank you for all your exertions on my behalf. There are twenty-five of us here. The youngest of the condemned is four weeks old. I wonder what crime this baby can possibly have committed. Probably not having chosen Aryan parents. Except for us, everyone is half- Aryan French. Their crime is that they are rich and that someone needed their wealth. Now we are all going to be skinned. No one can say there's no equality in France. But we are not despondent; on the contrary, we feel more courageous than before. We remain faithful to our Jewish tradition: love thy neighbor as thyself. Please accept the deep respect of your Jewish pupil, Jacques Friedmann.



" Children everywhere, both Jewish and non-Jewish, should learn this letter by heart, with its sublime message delivered with dignity and humor." Serge Klarsfeld

From the photos, the captions and the documentation what do you know about these children ?
 What more could you find out about them and how?
 What child's photo and story captures your attention and why?
 Given what you know about the Nazi ideology, why was it so important to hunt down the children?
 How do the photos and the stories preserve the memory of these children?



Betty Ascher was born on September 3, 1937, in Metz (Moselle). Her parents, Gerschon and Eva, were deported in 1942, as well as her brother **Samuel**, age 14, on **convoy 24** of August 26, 1942. In the care of the UGIF at the Montreuil center, Betty was arrested in July, 1944 during the big roundup organized by SS Captain Aloïs Brunner to liquidate the UGIF children's homes. She is one of the 200 children who, as a consequence of that roundup, was murdered at Auschwitz after having been deported on **convoy 77** of July 31, 1944.



Evelyne Lakser was born on April 13, 1937, in Vienna. Arrested with her parents, Jacob and Rebecca, in the southern village of Rieumes (Haute-Garonne) near Toulouse, she was interned in the Noe camp and handed over to the SS at Drancy by Vichy. All three of them were deported on **convoy 28** of September 4, 1942. The picture was taken on April 13, 1942, Evelyne's 5th birthday.



Bernard and Simon Zajdner, twins, were born in Paris on December 28, 1929. They were deported with their sister **Micheline** on **convoy 74** of May 20, 1944. They were victims of the so-called "medical experiments" of "Doctor" Mengele. Micheline survived. On July 16, 1995, the city of Paris inaugurated a commemorative plaque at 4 rue Eginhard (4th arr.) in memory of Micheline's father, Elias Zajdner, his oldest son, Albert, age 21, and Bernard and Simon.

*Les bisous au loin, c'est octobre 1942
 mon cher petit papa.
 Maman est partie. Je suis chez mon institutrice
 je pleure ma maman. Mon institutrice, je l'a
 ppelle manette. j'ai écrit à madame Bonault
 j'ai une lile paupière qui dort. elle est
 habillée en bretonne. je sais faire
 marcher le pote TSF tout seule. je l'em-
 brasse bien fort. Anja Schaul.*

My Dear Little Papa,

Maman is gone. I'm living at my teacher's. I cry for Maman. I call my teacher Manette. She's dressed like a Bretonne. I know how to work the TSF (wireless) all by myself.

*Hugs & Kisses,
 Anja Schaul*

Anja Schaul was born May 16, 1937 in Paris, where her mother Ruth had taken refuge. Ruth and Anja were arrested on July 15, 1942. On July 20, Ruth was deported on **convoy 8** for Auschwitz. Anja was placed in the care of a local family. On January 27, 1944 the Gestapo came to arrest the 6 year old child in school. She was deported from there on February 10, 1944 on **convoy 68**. All that remains of her are this photo and this letter sent to her father.



Louis Malle and 'Au Revoir, Les Enfants'



In the boarding school, Sainte-Terese de l'Enfant Jesus, in Avon, near Paris, three Jewish boys were hidden by Father Jacques. They became the tragic heroes in the film by Louis Malle, "Au Revoir Les Enfants" or "Goodbye Children," 1987, which Malle based on his own experiences as a boy in the school.

They were arrested on January 15, 1944 together with their teacher Father Jacques. The boys were taken to the camp at Drarcy.

He was friends with one of the Jewish boys, Hans Helmut Michel. “*I remember him as being dark, curly-haired, kind of a child Kafka, I suppose....*” Louis Malle.

EMILIA KROPP	Lebanon	94	92
—	Lebanon	91	91
BLICH	Lebanon	95	91
WERNER	Lebanon	97	92
—	Lebanon	98	93
HALPERN	Lebanon	99	92
SCHLOSSER	Lebanon	1100	93
—	Lebanon	99	93
MICHEL	Lebanon	1102	93
ET BELGAN	Lebanon	01	93
—	Lebanon	04	92
—	Lebanon	05	92

As the boys were being led away, Malle remembers, *"I will remember that cold January morning for the rest of my life."*

Candice Bergen Malle writes, "Louis Malle would be so moved by this exhibition. No event in my husband's life had more impact on him than the autobiographical story he was finally able to tell in 'Au Revoir Les Enfants.' He felt his entire career led to the making of this, his most personal film. Louis dedicated 'Au Revoir Les Enfants' to his three children to insure they would always remember this story that he could never forget. The Malle family is most grateful to you for your work."

Part of a page from the register of the Drancy concentration camp. This page, January 18, 1944, includes three Jewish children from a boarding school in Avon, **Jacques Halpern**, **Maurice Schlosser** and Jean (Hans) Michel. Jacques Halpern (Jacque Dupré in the film) born July 14, 1926 in Paris. Hans-Helmut Michel (Jean Bonnet) born November 6, 1930 in Frankfurt, Germany and Maurice Schlosser (Maurice Sabatier) born December 15, 1928 in Paris. All three were deported on **convoy 67** of February 3, 1944.

Watch the film "Au Revoir Les Enfants"
What do you think were the risks to Father Jacques?
How do you think Louis Malle and Jacques Halpern overcame
their stereotypes of each other to form a friendship?
What type of man was the headmaster?
Would you call him a hero?



Children Who Survived

Of the 11,400 children under 18 deported from France, an estimated 300 survive. In the 12 to 15 age group, survivors probably number less than 50.

This photograph taken in Austria in 1929 or 1930 shows the **Nives** family. The father, Bernard, was imprisoned in Dachau and Buchenwald between April 1938 and February 1939, before seeking refuge with his family in France, where people later helped save him. Fred, the older child, emigrated to the United States in 1940 and served in the U.S. army. **Ernest**, the younger child, born in Vienna on



April 8, 1925, was arrested on August 26, 1942, with his mother, Julia, in Laspardeieres (Puy-de-Dome), in central France. Sent by the Vichy police to the regional assembly camp in Montlucon, they were transferred to Drancy and deported on **convoy 32** of September 14, 1942. Ernest survived. He moved to New York and is active in preserving the memory of Holocaust victims.

Ernest Nives:

"After viewing the photos of these young victims, you must immediately resolve to keep their memory alive...

Here is a unique opportunity for you to leave an active imprint on a segment of the Holocaust and to change history. The Nazis counted on the silence of the world, betting that nobody would care about these children. You can and must help civilization to triumph. Having rescued these little faces, these beautiful eyes from oblivion, we can together celebrate a victory over the forces of evil by remembering these victims."

What ways can you think to help Mr. Nives in his efforts?



Fernande Choroszez born May 17, 1942 in Paris was deported February 10, 1944 on **convoy 68** with her mother Ruchla and her brother **Bernard**, 17, who survived Auschwitz. Their older brother, **David**, also 17, when he was deported on **convoy 7** of July 19, 1942 and their sister **Sosia**, 18 was on **convoy 9**. The family lived at 91 rue de Flandre in Paris (19th arr.). Bernard shares his experience in schools in the San Diego area. He warns that it can happen again if we do not learn to respect each other and ignore our different religions. Seven of the 10 Choroszez children survived the war. They were hidden by a family in Hardricourt, a little village near Versailles.



Simone Jacob was born on July 13, 1927 in Nice where she lived at 1 rue Clavier. She was arrested on March 30, 1944 with her parents, Andre and Yvonne, her sister Madeleine, age 21 and her brother Jean, 18; her other sister, Denise who was in the Resistance, was deported to Ravensbrück. Simone, Madeleine, and their mother were deported to Auschwitz on **convoy 71** of April 13, 1944. Jean and his father were deported on May 15, 1944 on **convoy 73** which went to Kaunas (Kovno) in Lithuania and Tallin (Reval) in Estonia. In 1945, only the three sisters returned. Simone Jacob Veil later became president of the European Parliament and a minister in the French government.

Connections:

Consider the loss of so many youth. What does it mean to a country and to a people to lose so many of its young people?

Consider what is going on in the world today... what are the implications of the loss of the potential of so many young people?

Nazi War Criminals

Alois Brunner



Denise Holstein, 17, took care of a group of children in the UGIF Center of Louveciennes. Among the children were **Claude Renee** and **Marie-Anne Vexler**, 7 and 5. They were deported with Denise on **convoy 77** of July 31, 1944; along with 30 other children from Louveciennes. All except Denise were killed in Auschwitz.

Alois Brunner escaped. 48 years later Congressman Michael McNulty of Albany, NY submitted a resolution seeking Brunner's extradition from his safe haven in Syria to face justice. Write the rest of the resolution: *Resolved...*

Alois Brunner SS Captain, aide to Adolf Eichmann, is transferred to France in 1943 to speed up the arrest and deportation of Jews from France as commandant of the camp Drancy. He demands complete lists of children in UGIF homes and psychiatric hospitals. When Italy signs an armistice with the Allies overthrowing Mussolini, Germany takes over the Italian zone of France. Brunner arrives in Nice with a special SS commando to brutally hunt down Jews who had been protected under Italian rule. More than 17,000 Jews are deported by the end of 1943. In 1944 Jews of all ages throughout France, whether French citizens or not, are rounded up and deported. After Allied armies landed in France June 6, 1944, Alois Brunner used his last weeks, with defeat apparent, to seize Jewish children from Paris area shelters. On July 21, 1944 he launched raids against the dozen UGIF children's centers in the Paris area. These were home to about 350 Jewish children. Two hundred fifty children are arrested; 232 of them are deported to Auschwitz on July 31 on **convoy 77**. Thirty-two of the 50 teenagers on that convoy survive. All of the younger children perished.

In his anti-semitic rage, while Paris was getting ready for Liberation, Brunner did not let up. If he had to retreat, he would try to take with him the largest possible number of Jews. For the retreat he obtained three cars from an aircraft battery by exchanging some pigs for them. The train, number 1697, left Paris/Bobigny. Brunner had the last three cars; one for the Gestapo, one for 51 deportees he took with him.

103d CONGRESS

1st Session

H. RES. 55

Urging the President to call on the President of Syria to permit the extradition of fugitive Nazi war criminal Alois Brunner.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 27, 1993

Mr. McNulty submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Urging the President to call on the President of Syria to permit the extradition of fugitive Nazi war criminal Alois Brunner.

Whereas Austrian-born Alois Brunner, who joined the Nazi party at the age of 19, was the deputy and personal secretary to Adolf Eichmann, who was personally responsible for sending to their deaths more than 120,000 Jews from Austria, Germany, France, Slovakia, and Greece;

Whereas, in 1938, after Kristallnacht, Brunner joined the Nazi Secret Police and subsequently requested a transfer to the Central Office for Jewish Emigration in Vienna, where he began his career in genocide as Eichmann's personal secretary; Whereas Brunner, often characterized as the personification of Nazi sadism in all its horror, executive Eichmann's plan for the Final Solution;

Whereas Brunner was particularly brutal toward French Jews, sending to their deaths more than 200 children from Jewish-operated orphanages, including 34 children from Louveciennes;

Whereas, in 1954, Brunner was sentenced to death in absentia by French courts in Paris and Marseilles for crimes against humanity;

Whereas, since 1955, Brunner has lived in Damascus, Syria, under the protection of the Syrian government and Syrian bodyguards and has assumed the name of Dr. Georg Fischer;

Whereas it is well known that Brunner lives in an apartment at 7 Rue Haddad in Damascus;

Whereas the Syrian government has frequently denied that Brunner lives in Syria; and Whereas attempts by Austria and Germany to secure Brunner's extradition from Syria have been unsuccessful: Now, therefore, be it...



Klaus Barbie

On April 6, 1944 Klaus Barbie, SS Lieutenant in Lyons, brutally arrested 44 children and 7 guardians in a children's home at Izieu, an isolated mountain village near Lyons, imprisoning them in Fort Montluc Prison before sending them to Drancy the next day. All of the children and adults were deported to Auschwitz. None of the children and only one adult survived.

Barbie escaped from Europe after the war with the help of U.S. intelligence. He was tracked down by Beate Klarsfeld to La Paz, Bolivia in 1971 but was protected by the Bolivian dictator from extradition for ten years.

After a new Bolivian government came to power, Barbie was extradited to France. Serge Klarsfeld represented the victims in the trial of Klaus Barbie for crimes against humanity. He was tried and convicted in Lyons and sentenced to life imprisonment in 1987. He died in prison in 1991.

In the book *Children of Izieu*, Serge Klarsfeld published documents, letters and photographs of the children of Izieu.

After an investigation, the U.S. Justice department issued a report on the use of Barbie by U.S. Intelligence after the war and issued an apology to the French government.

Klaus Barbie and The Children of Izieu



Mina Halaunbrenner was born on June 25, 1935, her sister Claudine on April 2, 1939; and brother Leon on April 21, 1939. They were three of the five children of Jacob and Ita-Rosa Halaunbrenner from Poland. Alexandre, their second child, was born on October 28, 1931; Monique the baby on December 5, 1941. The oldest, Leon was arrested by the Lyon Gestapo along with his father at their home in Villeurbanne, on October 24, 1943. The father was executed by Barbie's Gestapo on November 24, 1943. Leon was transferred to Drancy and deported to Auschwitz on December 17, 1943, on **convoy 63**. Alexandre found his father's body at the morgue riddled with bullets. Impoverished, Madame Halaunbrenner had to give up Mina and Claudine to the OSE, which sent them to the children's home in Izieu. She kept little Monique and Alexandre with her. Mina and Claudine were deported to Auschwitz on **convoy 76** of June 30, 1944.

"Telex Indicts Barbie"

Der Befehlshaber der Sicherheitspolizei und des SD
im Bereich des Militärbefehlshabers in Frankreich
Fernschreibstelle

LYON NR. 5269 6.4.44 2010 UHR ** F.I.2

AN DEN RUF - ADCL, ROM. A.R. - PARIS 9

BEZUG: JÜDISCHES KINDERHEIM IN IZIEU-AIN

VORGEH. DNE

IN DEN HEUTIGEN MORGENSTUNDEN WURDE DAS JÜDISCHE KINDEHEIM "COLONIE ENFANT" IN IZIEU-AIN AUSGERÖHM. KINDESENT WURDEN 41 KINDER IM ALTER VON 3 BIS 13 JAHREN FESTGENOMMEN. FERNER GELANG DIE FESTNAHME DES GESAMTEN JÜDISCHEN PERSONALS. BESTEHEND AUS 10 KÖRPERN. DAVON 6 FRAUEN. DARÜBER ODER SONSTIGE VERMOGENSWERTE KONNTEN NICHT SICHERGESTELLT WERDEN.

DER ABTRANSPORT NACH DRANCY ERFOLGT AM 7.4.44

DER KID. DER SIFO UND DES SD LYON ROM. A.R. 61/42

1. A. BEZ. NAMIE 55-0510F

[Handwritten notes and signatures follow]

Cable to the anti-Jewish section of the Gestapo in Paris, signed by Klaus Barbie announcing the liquidation of the children's home at Izieu. This document, the original of which was found by Serge Klarsfeld in 1984, helped convict Barbie of crimes against humanity.

Connections:

Define crimes against humanity by studying the Nuremberg processes. Learn more about the war crimes trials today around the world. Conduct further research on the Barbie trial and the children of Izieu through books and newspaper coverage. For further information see Nuremberg Principles and International Law: Lessons for All Humanity St. Louis Center for Holocaust Studies

...hoping to strike a blow against anti-semitism, racism, xenophobia –

Serge Klarsfeld

The Beate Klarsfeld Foundation



Beate Klarsfeld and Ita-Rosa Halaunbrenner demonstrating for the extradition of Klaus Barbie in front of his office building in La Paz, Bolivia. March 1972. Madame Halaunbrenner's sign says: **"People of Bolivia, Help me! Mothers I only ask for justice. May Barbie-Altman, murderer of my husband and three of my children, be judged."**

Beate and Serge Klarsfeld provide a role model for students about the potential for bringing about social change through participatory democracy. Through their efforts to heighten public awareness, to change laws, to seek justice against those responsible, and to defend the rights of the oppressed, including the rights of Gypsies in Germany, Jews in lands throughout the world, Muslims in Bosnia, the Klarsfelds have been a catalyst for change.

Beate is a German woman whose father fought in the German army in World War II.

Serge Klarsfeld as a young boy was hiding in a closet as Alois Brunner arrested his father who was sent to his death in Auschwitz. Their son Arno won the condemnation of life imprisonment of Paul Touvier who represented the Militia. Their tireless work has shown the world that there are standards of responsibility, that the crimes of Vichy France against its own citizens, the deprivation of human rights, the tracking down and arrest of infants and children because of

their identity and sending them to their deaths is truly a crime against humanity. By seeking justice against the leaders of Vichy for their role as accomplices in the Final Solution, they succeeded in changing history text books for high school students to reflect the role of French police in the arrest of four out of five Jews in France.

Publishers of more than 30 works of documentation, Beate and Serge Klarsfeld have used all means at their disposal-- the law, public outrage evoked by the media and historical detective work to uncover and publish the history of the crimes during the Holocaust. By bringing the history to light, uncovering the lives of the victims they have given identity and humanity back to the victims of extreme racial hatred and mass murder.

Often arrested for their daring efforts, they have put their lives on the line in Syria, in Germany and elsewhere for justice for human rights and in opposition to neo-Nazi resurgence.

Connections:

The Beate Klarsfeld Foundation has published documentations of the Holocaust. The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum prepared cards telling the stories of real people who lived during the Holocaust as a means to bear witness. Prepare a memorial card on a victim of the Holocaust in France giving all the details available about their life, what happened to them. If possible find a photo.

The Klarsfelds have focused on using law, publicity and documentation to heighten public awareness of the need for justice in the cases against Nazi war criminals and human rights for those persecuted today. Can you think of other strategies that could be used to carry out this campaign?

Discuss how individuals can effect change using the Klarsfelds as a starting point. Consider a social action issue relevant to your area in which the methods of heightened public awareness could make a difference.

Write an essay about the war crimes cases going on today. Study the work of the Office of Special Investigations of the United States Justice Department to deport Nazi persecutors from the United States today by using the new media and the internet or contacting the O.S.I at 10th and Constitution Avenues in Washington DC.

Find a war crimes case and put together a research project showing the information about the crimes, maps, the unit responsible with background data and the role of the accused.

"Fighting anti-Semitism, this is a moral obligation for Germans no matter what their ideologies"

- Beate Klarsfeld

1943 *Chronology Continued*

March 1943 - After reports from the Italian Ambassador to Berlin confirming that the Germans are gassing Jews in the East, Mussolini makes Italian police responsible for Jews in Italian occupied France, protecting them from arrest by German and French police.

June 1943 - SS Captain Alois Brunner arrives in France.

September 8, 1944 - Mussolini overthrown. Germans take over Italian Zone threatening 30,000 to 50,000 Jews.

September 10, 1943 - Brunner arrives in Nice to hunt down Jews, brutally torturing prisoners to get information on location of family members. Raids in Marseilles of UGIF children's home in Bordeaux. Raids are intensified with the full cooperation of the French police in the arrest of French Jews.

17,069 more Jews are deported from France to death camps. 340 men and 126 women deported in 1943 survive the war

1944

April 6, 1944 - Raid on children's home at Izieu an isolated village near Lyons by Gestapo chief Klaus Barbie

June 6, 1944 - Allied armies land in France

July 21, 1944 - Alois Brunner launches raids against the dozen UGIF children's centers in the Paris area home to about 350 Jewish children. 250 are arrested and 232 deported to Auschwitz July 31, 1944 on Convoy 77. Only 32 teenagers survive.

August 22, 1944 - As liberation approaches convoy Brunner assembled leaves France.

Nearly 15,000 Jews deported from France in 1944. Of these, 523 men and 766 women survive.

Medical Experiments



George André Kohn, 12, arrested by Alois Brunner, was deported on train number 1697 which was used by Brunner in his escape from France August 17, 1944. Georges-André's older brother and sister were able to escape from the convoy. Only the father returned. He was one of 20 children from other parts of Europe selected for horrible pseudo-medical experiments directed by Dr. Kurt Heissmeyer at a subcamp of Neungamme in the Bullenhuser Damm school in Hamburg, Germany. Also selected was **Jacqueline Morgenstern**, born Paris May 26, 1932. All of the children with two French doctors and two Dutch caretakers, all prisoners, were hanged in the basement of the school on April 20, 1945. It took years before Dr. Heissmeyer and the SS man responsible for the deaths faced the bar of justice.

After years of struggle the story of the children has been memorialized. The school has been renamed the Janusz Korczak School after the Polish Jewish head of a Warsaw orphanage who went to his death with his children in Treblinka death camp.

In Hamburg there is a street named after George André Kohn. At the school there is a memorial garden, on the fence a plaque says:

**"When you stand here be silent
When you leave here be not silent"**

Connections:

What is the message of the inscription on the plaque?

Doctors take an oath to heal. How did the Nazis use that oath in the service of their racial ideas?

Hidden Children



Colette Rozen, 12, shortly before she was deported on February 10, 1944 on **convoy 68**. Like her parents, she was murdered at Auschwitz. Colette, who was placed with adoptive family in the Aube Department, was like many other hidden children.

Hidden Children

Renée Fersen-Osten with her sister Yvonne Campbell were placed into a convent and converted to a new religion, losing their identity. She was reunited with her parents who survived Auschwitz and other camps. She speaks and writes about her experiences. Through her poetry and stories she hopes to offer a sense of hope, knowing that whatever handicaps... there is a way to survive, conquer and succeed.

*They call it the Holocaust
I call it the loss I can never regain.
The destruction of our family
I say they took my childhood.
I didn't know we would be hunted down.
That we were not like the others. I did not know Pap and Maman would have to give us to the church.
My sister and I.
So that we could survive
I didn't know there were concentration camps
Called Auschwitz -Birkenau
somewhere in the hell of this world.*

Who is Responsible for Anti-Jewish Actions In France?

A Selection to Consider

German Authorities-Higher SS and German Police Commanders

Karl Oberg: Head of the SS in France. Born 1897; condemned to death in France 1954; sentence commuted 1958; freed in 1962; died 1965.

Herbert Hagen: Oberg's personal aide. Born in 1923; not tried until 1979 after efforts by the Klarsfelds; sentenced to 12 years in prison in Cologne, Germany in 1980.

Adolf Eichmann: Head of the Jewish Affairs office at Gestapo headquarters in Berlin; considered one of the main forces behind the murder of Europe's Jews. Born in 1906; captured in Argentina by Israeli agents and tried in Jerusalem and hanged June 1, 1962.

Security Police (SiPo-SD)

National officials:

Helmut Knochen: Head of Security Police in France. Born 1910; condemned to death in France in 1954; pardoned in 1958; freed in 1962.

Kurt Lischka: Knochen's deputy and SiPo-SD chief for Paris. Born 1909; sentenced to 10-year prison term in Cologne in 1980 after Klarsfeld effort; died in 1989.

The Jewish Affairs Service of the Gestapo

Theodor Dannecker: Chief of the Jewish Affairs Service in France 1940-1942. Born 1913; committed suicide in American prison December 1945.

Heinz Rothke: Dannecker's successor August 1942 to August 1944; Born 1912 condemned to death in absentia in France 1954; lawyer in Wolfsburg, Germany; died in 1966.

Ernst Heinrichsohn: Aide to Dannecker and Rothke until Dec 1942. Born 1920 sentenced to six year prison term in Cologne in 1980 when he was a lawyer and Mayor of Burgstadt, Germany

French Authorities

Marshal (Henri) Philippe Petain: Chief of State of Vichy France. Born 1856; condemned to death in 1945, sentence commuted to life imprisonment by Charles De Gaulle; died in custody in 1951.

Pierre Laval: Vichy Prime Minister July to December 1940 and April 1942 to August 1944. Born 1883; condemned to death and executed in 1945.

Rene Bousquet: Secretary General (chief) of the National Police in the second Laval government. Born 1909; sentenced to "national indignity" in 1949 but sentence suspended; prominent postwar French banker and businessman and friend of President Francois Mitterand; indicted again in 1989 as a result of Klarsfeld's efforts but never tried; murdered in 1993 by a gunman who is not Jewish.

Jean Leguay: Representative of Bousquet for police matters in the Occupied Zone. Born 1909; removed from official duties after the war but restored to civil service in 1955; president of a prominent cosmetics firm; indicted in 1979 but never tried; died in 1989.

Jean Francois: Chief of the Office for Foreigners and Jewish Affairs, Paris. Born 1885; never tried.

Xavier Vallat: Vichy Commissioner-General for Jewish Affairs until April 1942. Born 1891; sentenced to 10 years imprisonment in 1947; pardoned in 1950; died in 1972.

Maurice Papon: Secretary General of the Regional Prefecture in Bordeaux, responsible for Jewish Affairs and involved in deportation decisions. Prefect of the Landes Department Prefect of Police in Paris 1958-1965, Budget Minister in the Raymond Barre cabinet 1981; charged with crimes against humanity in 1983 (trial began in October 1997)

Find news articles on the prosecution of Nazi war criminals and trials in Bosnia & Rwanda. Discuss responsibility for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

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