Photo Narrative

National Institute for Holocaust Education
German Jewish children in Berlin prior to the Nazi seizure of power. January 1929.  

(USHMM Photo Archives #15940)
Chancellor Adolf Hitler and President Paul von Hindenburg.
Potsdam, Germany, March 21, 1933.

(USHMM Photo Archives #78587)
The Reichstag (German parliament) building burns in Berlin.
Germany, February 27, 1933.
SA pickets, wearing boycott signs, block the entrance to a Jewish-owned shop.
Germany, April 1st, 1933.

(USHMM Photo Archives #11286)
A young man on a motorcycle gazes up at a sign posted on a telephone pole that reads, "Jews are not welcomed here."

Germany, 1935

(USHMM Photo Archives #97470)
Nazi Party Congress
Nuremberg, Germany, September 1938

(USHMM Photo Archives #64438)

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM
Local residents watch as the synagogue is destroyed by fire, on the morning after Kristallnacht.

The fire department prevented the fire from spreading to a nearby home, but did not try to limit the damage to the synagogue.

Darmstadt, Germany, November 10, 1938

(USHMM Photo Archives #04467)
The Reich invalidates all German passports held by Jews. Passports became valid only after the letter “J” had been stamped on them. The law also required Jews to adopt an additional name: "Sara" for women and “Israel” for men.

Bamberg, Germany, 1939

(USHMM Photo Archives #44916)
German soldiers march into Warsaw carrying bayonets.
Warsaw, Poland, October 5, 1939.

(USHMM Photo Archives # 58308)
A German policeman publicly humiliates a Jew in the Zawiercie ghetto by shaving his beard.

Zawiercie, Poland, 1940

(USHMM Photo Archives #48593)
Roma (Gypsy) prisoners sit in an open area near the fence in the Belzec forced labor camp. Belzec, Poland 1940

(USHMM Photo Archives #74705)
Street scene from the early Warsaw ghetto. Warsaw, Poland, 1941.

(USHMM Photo Archives #20630)
Children eating in the ghetto streets.
Warsaw, Poland, between 1940 and 1943.
View of Hadamar, one of six facilities where health care professionals and German police carried out the Nazi “Euthanasia” program, starting in late 1939. Hadamar, Germany, 1945.

(USHMM Photo Archives #05456)
A man kneels before a mass grave during a shooting operation conducted by members of a mobile killing unit in Ukraine. Vinnitsa, Soviet Union, 1941-1943.

(USHMM Photo Archives #64407)
A member of the Lithuanian auxillary police, who has just returned from taking part in the mass shooting operation of the local Jewish population in the Rase Forest, auctions off their personal property in the central market of Utena.

Utena, Lithuania, 1941.

(USHMM Photo Archives #25736)
Hungarian Jews undergo a selection on the ramp at Auschwitz-Birkenau. German-occupied Poland, May 1944.

(USHMM Photo Archives #77234)
Roll call in the Buchenwald concentration camp.
Buchenwald, Germany, 1938-1941.

(USHMM Photo Archives #10105)
Jewish refugees are ferried out of Denmark aboard Danish fishing boats bound for Sweden, 1943.

(USHMM Photo Archives #62197)
A Jewish woman walks toward the gas chambers with three young children after going through the selection process on the ramp at Auschwitz-Birkenau. May 1944

(USHMM Photo Archives #77217)
Richard Baer, Dr. Josef Mengele, and Rudolf Höss socialize on the grounds of the SS retreat of Solahütte near Auschwitz Concentration Camp
Auschwitz, Poland, 1944

(USHMM Photo Archives #34753)
Former prisoners of the Buchenwald concentration camp on the bunks in the barracks.
Buchenwald, Germany, April 1945.

(USHMM Photo Archives #74607)
U.S. soldiers stand in front of corpses at Ohrdruf concentration camp. Ohrdruf, Germany, April 1945.

(USHMM Photo Archives #74589)
View of a large pile of victims' shoes outside barracks in the Dachau concentration camp.
Dachau, Germany 1945

(USHMM Photo Archives #75004)
Jewish partisans in Naliboki forest, near Novogrudok.
Poland, 1942 or 1943.

(USHMM Photo Archives #46677)
German occupying forces hang Polish partisans.
Rowno, Poland, [today: Rivne, Ukraine] 1942.

(USHMM Photo Archives #34125)
Clandestine photograph of prisoners marching to Dachau. Maria Seidenberger took the photo from the second story window of her family's home while her mother stood outside & gave potatoes to the prisoners.
Hebertshausen, Germany, 1945

(USHMM Photo Archives #99216)
Mauthausen survivors cheer the soldiers of the Eleventh Armored Division of the U.S. Third Army one day after their actual liberation. Austria, May 1945.
View of the defendants at the International Military Tribunal during the trial of the top Nazi leaders at Nuremberg. Nuremberg, Germany, November 1945-1946.

(USHMM Photo Archives #65505)
Group portrait of Jewish displaced persons aboard the Altalena, an immigrant ship bound for Israel. June 1948.

(USHMM Photo Archives #29847)