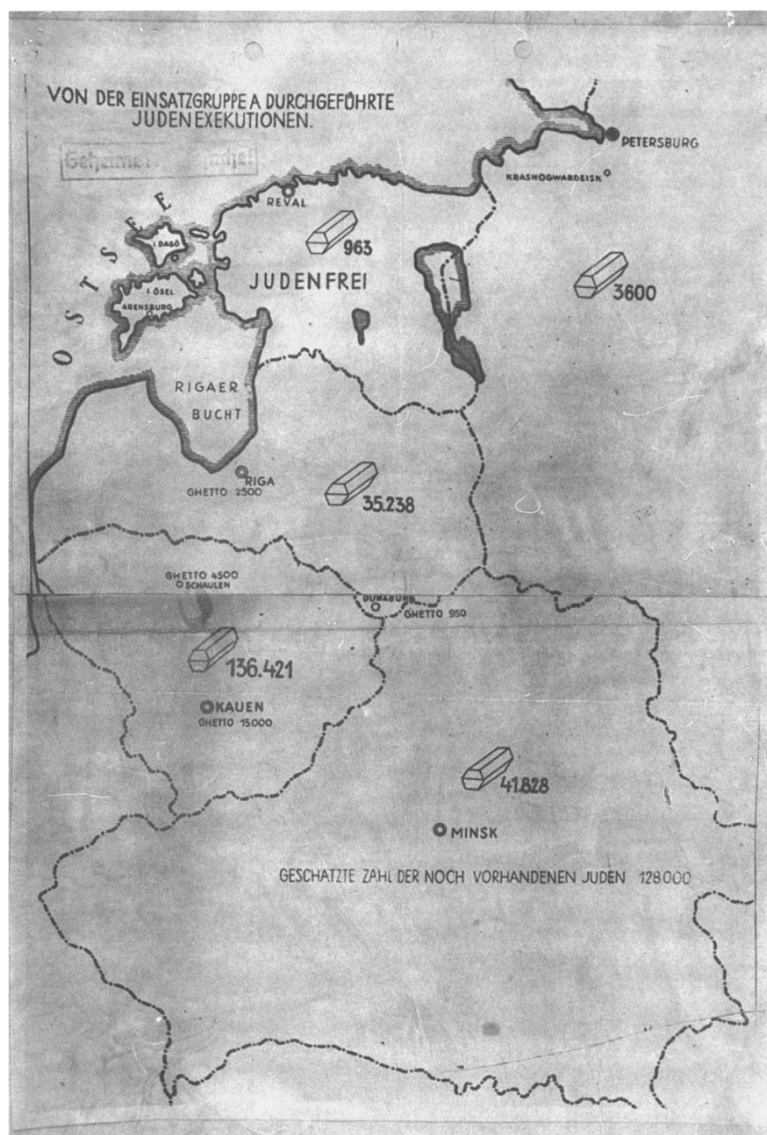


Worksheet – War in the East and the Move towards the ‘Final Solution’

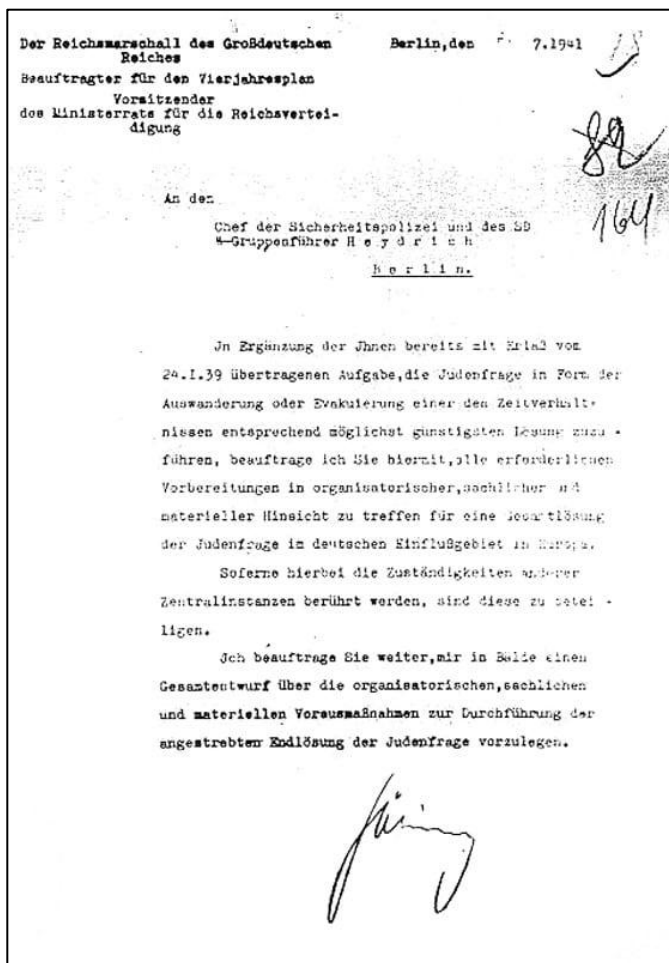
Document One:



This map is entitled “Jewish Executions Carried out by Einsatzgruppen A” and is stamped "Secret Reich Matter". It shows the number of Jews executed (symbolized by coffins) in the Baltic states and Belorussia by late 1941. The legend near the bottom states that "the estimated number of Jews still on hand [was] 128,000."

<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/gallery/documenting-the-holocaust-examples-of-documents>

Document Two:



Translation:

*The Reich Marshal of the Greater German Reich
Commissioner for the Four-Year Plan
Chairman of the Ministerial Council for National Defense
Berlin, July 31st 1941*

To: SS-Gruppenführer Heydrich

“Complementing the task that was assigned to you on January 24th 1939, which dealt with a solution of the Jewish problem through emigration and evacuation as advantageously as possible, I hereby charge you with making all necessary preparations, with regard to organisational and financial matters, for bringing about a total solution of the Jewish question in the German sphere of influence in Europe.

Wherever other governmental agencies are involved, they are to cooperate with you. I charge you furthermore to send me, before long, an overall plan concerning the organisational, factual and material measures necessary for the accomplishment of the desired solution of the Jewish question.”

[signed] Goering

Document Three

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L a n d	Zahl
A. Altreich	131.800
Ostmark	43.700
Ostgebiete	420.000
Generalgouvernement	2.284.000
Bialystok	400.000
Protektorat Böhmen und Mähren	74.200
Estland - judenfrei -	
Lettland	3.500
Litauen	34.000
Belgien	43.000
Dänemark	5.600
Frankreich / Besetztes Gebiet	165.000
Unbesetztes Gebiet	700.000
Griechenland	69.600
Niederlande	160.800
Norwegen	1.300
B. Bulgarien	48.000
England	330.000
Finnland	2.300
Irland	4.000
Italien einschl. Sardinien	58.000
Albanien	200
Kroatien	40.000
Portugal	3.000
Rumänien einschl. Bessarabien	342.000
Schweden	8.000
Schweiz	18.000
Serbien	10.000
Slowakei	88.000
Spanien	6.000
Türkei (europ. Teil)	55.500
Ungarn	742.800
UdSSR	5.000.000
Ukraine	2.994.684
Weißrußland aus- schl. Bialystok	446.484
Zusammen: über	11.000.000

K210405 372029

A page from the Protocol of the Wannsee Conference, January 20, 1942.

The table shows the Jewish population of Axis-controlled Europe, and also the United Kingdom, and the neutral nations (Switzerland, Ireland, Sweden, Spain, Portugal, and European Turkey). By the time of the Wannsee Conference, the Jews of Estonia has already been murdered. In the table, the A list countries were countries already invaded. B list countries were not yet conquered by Germany by the time of the conference.

Holocaust Memorial Miami Beach

Questions:

Document One – Secret Map

1. What is this document?
2. Which areas are shown?
3. The title of the map is “*Jewish Executions Carried out by Einsatzgruppen A*”.
What were Einsatzgruppen?
4. What are the symbols beside the numbers?
5. What are the numbers?
6. The bottom line says “*The estimated number of Jews still on hand was 128,000.*”
Why might the Nazis want to know this number?
7. These figures relate to late 1941. What does this tell you about German policy towards the Jews of this area in 1941?

Write a short conclusion about this document.

Document Two – Goering Memorandum

1. This memorandum was sent from Goering to Heydrich. Who were those two men in the context of the Nazi hierarchy?
2. Note the date of the memorandum. Put it in the context of the war in the East.
3. Find a quote that sums up the point of the memorandum.
4. What is the real meaning of this memorandum?

Extension question: Goering uses the euphemism ‘total solution of the Jewish question’ and doesn’t use words like ‘murder’ or ‘eliminate’. Why is this the case?

Write a short conclusion about this document.

Document Three – Protocol of the Wannsee Conference

The Wannsee Conference was a meeting of high-level Nazi officials held on January 20, 1942.

1. What is listed in the left hand column?
2. What is the difference between the A group and the B group?
3. What do the numbers represent?
4. Estland (Estonia) is listed as ‘judenfrei’ – what does that mean?
5. What was the purpose of this chart at the Wannsee Conference?
6. What does this indicate was the purpose of the Wannsee Conference?

Write a short conclusion about this document.

Extension Question: contestability

Some historians claim that the Wannsee Conference was where the Nazis decided to murder the Jews of Europe. Others claim the decision had been made before the meeting at Wannsee. If the latter is true, why was the meeting significant, and what was its effect on the Final Solution? Discuss. In your response, refer to at least one of the documents you have considered this lesson.

Summary Question

Reading all three documents together, what can you conclude about the evolution of the Final Solution?