Holocaust Terms

- 1. Aktion: Gangs of anti-Semites formed to force Jews into labor camps. It is also used in reference to violence against Jews.
- 2. AMT VI: Office 6. Branch of RSHA responsible for the Final Solution; it was headed by Adolf Eichmann.
- 3. Anti-Semitism: Prejudice or hostility toward Jews.
- 4. Aryan: In Nazi terminology, the Master Race.
- 5. Block: Housing for prisoners, one-story brick or wooden buildings.
- 6. Block Senior: Prisoner appointed by the SS to be responsible for a block.
- 7. "Canada": Large warehouses where confiscated prisoner property was stored.
- 8. Capo: Prisoner appointed by the SS to be foreman of a labor squad.
- 9. Concentration camp: Used by Nazis to hold anyone they regarded as an enemy. Inmates wore badges determining the category of their offense.
- 10. Confessional Church: Protestants refusing to accept Nazi religious doctrines.
- 11. DAP: German Worker's Party; original name for Nazi (NSDAP) party.
- 12. Death Camp (extermination camp): A camp existing primarily for the quick killing of prisoners.
- 13. Death Wall (black wall): where firing squad executions took place.
- 14. Einsatzgruppen: Mobile units killing Jews in occupied lands.
- 15. Einsatzkommandos: Detachments of Einsatzgruppen units.
- 16. I.G. Farben: Major German corporation using many slave laborers.
- 17. Final Solution: Name given to the German goal of killing all European Jews.
- 18. Frei Korps: Fanatic German nationalists fighting Communists in street battles in the 1920s4; most later joined the Nazi party.
- 19. German Faith Movement: Nazi's perverted version of Christianity.
- 20. Gestapo: Secret State police headed by Heinrich Himmler. Much feared by everyone in Germany because of their cruelty.
- 21. Ghetto: Section of city inhabited only by Jews
- 22. Holocaust: Systematic slaughter of European Jews by the Nazis.
- 23. Judaism: The religion of the Jewish people.
- 24. "Juda Verrecke!" (death to Judaism): A favorite Nazi slogan.
- 25. Judenfrei: Slogan meaning "Cleansed of Jews", used by Nazis after every Jew was either dead or removed from an area.
- 26. Judenrat: Jewish council formed by Germans as a way to issue orders to Jews and administer Jewish affairs.
- 27. Julag: Concentration camp with only Jewish inmates.
- 28. Kripo: Criminal police. Branch of the SD.
- 29. Kristallnachnt (Night of the Broken Glass): November 9, 1938, when mobs throughout Germany destroyed Jewish property and terrorized Jews.
- 30. KZ: Concentration camp.
- 31. Mischlinge: Those with mixed (Jewish and Gentile) blood.

- 32. "Muselmann" (plural "Muselmanner"): The 'walking dead' of concentration camps who looked and acted like zombies.
- 33. Nazi: Common name for the NSDAP party.
- 34. NSDAP: National Socialist German Worker's Party. Proper name for the Nazi party.
- 35. Nuremberg Laws: 1935 laws defining the status of Jews and withdrawing citizenship from persons of non-German blood.
- 36. OKH: High command of the German army.
- 37. OKW: High command of the armed forces.
- 38. Orpo: Uniformed police of Nazi Germany.
- 39. Ostjuden (Eastern Jew): Used as insulting term for Yiddish-speaking Jews of Russia and Poland.
- 40. Personal effects depot: Where prisoner property was sorted.
- 41. POW (Prisoner of War): They were supposedly protected by the Geneva Convention.
- 42. Reichstag: German parliament; had no power after 1933.
- 43. RSHA: Combined all police (including Gestapo, SS, SD, and Kripo). All enemies of the State were sent to concentration camps.
- 44. SA: Storm Troopers used by Nazis to fight Communists. Lost influence after 1934.
- 45. SD: Security Service, the intelligence branch of the SS.
- 46. Shtetl: Small Jewish communities in Poland.
- 47. SiPo: Secret Police, a branch of the SD.
- 48. Sonderkommando: Jewish inmates disposing of bodies in camps. They were usually killed themselves within a month or two.
- 49. SS: Guard Corps. Usually identifiable by black uniforms: among other responsibilities, they ran the concentration camps.
- 50. Standing Cells: A punishment cell 35 X 35 inches, occupied by four prisoners, After standing all night, they joined work crews during days.
- 51. Waffen SS: Military arm of the SS, more loyal to Hitler than the regular army (Wehrmacht).
- 52. Wannsee Conference: Meeting in January 1942 where plans were worked out for the Final Solution.
- 53. Wehrmacht: Regular army of Germany.
- 54. Zionism: Movement among Jews to establish a Jewish state in Palestine.
- 55. ZOB: Jewish Fighting Organization.
- 56. Zyklon-B: Hydrogen cyanide crystals used to gas prisoners.