

DID THE HOLOCAUST REALLY HAPPEN THE WAY WE'VE BEEN TOLD?

An introduction to Holocaust “denial”

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What Is Holocaust Denial?

Do you know what the debate over the Holocaust is all about? Probably not, as the so-called Holocaust “deniers” are not allowed to voice their views in the public forum. Consequently, for most people denial of the Holocaust is absurd as it flies in the face of the physical evidence (e.g., gas chambers) documented by photographs and corroborated by eyewitnesses. Moreover, guilt for the unspeakable crime was proven at the postwar Nuremberg trial of Nazi leaders.

As you will learn from the following, there is no evidence for a Final Solution as popularly portrayed other than eyewitness testimony, and the Nuremberg Tribunal was such a blatant case of “victor’s justice” the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Harlan Stone, called it a “high-grade lynching party”. (Consider that the notion of soap made from Jewish fat and lampshades made from Jewish skin – evidence of Nazi barbarity presented at Nuremberg – is pooh-poohed these days as fanciful by even proponents of the orthodox Holocaust story, and the execution of Polish military officers in the Katyn Forest, blamed on the Germans at Nuremberg, was actually carried out by the Russians, as they admitted after the collapse of the Soviet Union.)

The debate over the Holocaust boils down to three issues:

- (1) How many died?
- (2) Was the Final Solution an extermination plan?
- (3) Were there gas chambers?

For believers in the Holocaust story, it's not enough to acknowledge (as all "deniers" I know of do) that the Jews were uprooted from their homes *en masse* – their businesses confiscated and their careers disrupted – and placed in concentration camps where they lived under dire conditions, separated from family and friends, and died in droves from starvation, disease, and maltreatment. To affirm the uniqueness of the Holocaust in history, believers find it necessary to assert that the Final Solution was an extermination plan, implemented through homicidal gas chambers, which resulted in the death of 6 million Jews. In the following pages we will examine the truth of this claim.

How Many Died?

This is the issue most open to differing opinions without anyone being accused of "denial". Atrocity stories generally result in widely differing numbers put forth by the protagonists and their victims. Estimates of the number killed in the Armenian massacre of 1915 range from 600,000 to 1.5 million. The Chinese put the number of Chinese killed by the Japanese in the Nanjing massacre at 300,000; the Japanese, at 40,000. Even amongst conventional Holocaust historians the universally-cited 6 million figure is contested, Raul Hilberg in his authoritative tome, *The Destruction of the European Jews*, arriving at a figure of 5.1 million.

Holocaust death counts have a checkered history. For 40 years a plaque at Auschwitz claimed 4 million had died there before the number was reduced to 1.5 million. Similarly, the count at another concentration camp, Madjanek, was given as 1.5 million at Nuremberg but is now put at 78,000 by camp memorial officials. Despite these radical downsizings, the figure of 6 million dead remains canonical. (Curiously, talk of 6 million Jews in Europe being in danger of a "holocaust" was bandied about 20 years *before* the Second World War even started (see *The American Hebrew*, Oct. 31, 1919)).

If an accurate count is significant, the important thing is that historians be free to analyze the data available without fear of being labelled a denier if their final count comes in on the low side. That is not the case today, especially in Europe but on this side of the Atlantic as well.

The Final Solution

The Holocaust wouldn't be the Holocaust without a plan for the extermination of the Jews. It's true the Nazis openly talked about the solution to the centuries-old, Eurocentric conundrum known as "The Jewish Question", being the deportation of the Jews from Europe – making Europe *Judenrein* - not their extermination. Those who don't find such a plan odious enough claim the deportation plan morphed into a program of extermination – a final solution.

According to the Holocaust devout, this transformation took place at a conference of Nazi leaders at a place called Wannsee in 1942. Out of their deliberations came the only document in existence of the Nazis' planning to exterminate the Jews, the so-called *Wannsee Protocol*. Supposedly, at this gathering of second-tier Nazi leaders a plan to murder 6 million Jews was arrived at in 80 minutes! Is this plausible? One of Israel's leading historians, Yehuda Bauer, doesn't think so, calling the idea that the Final Solution was born at Wannsee "silly".

The lack of documentation of an extermination plan is a two-edged sword, the orthodox claiming the Nazis destroyed all the evidence in fear of postwar prosecution, the skeptical citing the lack of any evidence as proof no plan existed. Fortunately, we don't have to argue over phantom evidence to determine if there was a plan to kill the Jews as the answer to our third question, "Were there gas chambers?" will provide the proof one way or the other.

Were There Gas Chambers?

If there were gas chambers, there must have been a plan to exterminate the Jews; if not, how could there have been a plan if there was no method to carry it out? Because most people subscribe to the Holocaust narrative without really knowing much about the details, it comes as a surprise to many that even orthodox Holocaust historians admit there were no gas chambers in any of the concentration camps in Germany proper. The camps in which it is claimed Jews were gassed are limited to six, all located in Poland and all liberated by the Soviets.

Well, almost all. There is one exception: the gas chamber at the Dachau concentration camp near Munich, which was liberated by the Americans. This is a curious case. The room shown to tourists as a gas chamber has a 7-foot high ceiling in which obviously fake showerheads are embedded. Problem is two days after its liberation a congressional delegation visited Dachau and they reported that room as having a 10-foot high ceiling from which real showerheads were suspended.

Seems like somebody built themselves a gas chamber, doesn't it; only it wasn't the Germans! On the basis of such bogus evidence, Nazis were convicted of war crimes at Nuremberg and hung. Today the Dachau Museum staff explains that the gas chamber was never used, a less than completely honest confession.

The anomalies surrounding the purported gas chambers at the camps in Poland are not so stark as the fake gas

chamber at Dachau, but they are similar. It is not feasible to present these anomalies in detail in this short pamphlet (whole books have been written about them!), so I'll just list some of them, hoping that will be sufficient to convince you legitimate questions exist which historians should be free to pose without fear for their careers or their freedom.

The "Holy of Holies" (a believer's phrase, not mine) of Holocaust dogma is the concentration camp of Auschwitz. It is here that the bulk of the gassings is said to have taken place. The history of the gas chambers at Auschwitz unfolded in two phases. First, there is the room shown to tourists as a gas chamber in the small, original camp; then there is the much larger chamber in the later, greatly expanded camp which goes by the name Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Auschwitz Museum officials admit that the first gas chamber is a re-creation, as the room was converted from a gas chamber to an air raid shelter during the war (revisionists say it was *always* an air raid shelter). As part of the re-creation, holes were punched through the roof as it is maintained that the best renowned German engineering could come up with for introducing the toxic Zyklon-B gas into the chamber was by dropping the deadly pellets through such a hole (a method endangering the executioners almost as much as those to be executed!).

Some of the problems with claiming this room to have been a homicidal gas chamber include:

- The absence of the telltale blue stain on the walls which the use of cyanide gas would have left
- A drain in the floor of the room connected to the camp's drainage system through which the gas could escape, endangering the jailers as much as the jailed
- The door to the room includes a large, glass panel easily breakable

The "gas chamber" at the expanded camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau is a pile of rubble. Again, the faithful claim the Germans destroyed it to hide the evidence of their sins. Problems with this chamber include:

- Again, the absence of the telltale blue stain on the walls which cyanide gas would have left
- The absence of holes in the roof (such as it is) for introducing the gas
- The building where the gassings supposedly took place is in plain view of the entire camp, hardly conducive to tricking the condemned into believing they were headed for a shower

Similar problems exist for the other camps in which it is claimed there were gas chambers. For instance, at Madjanek, the only camp liberated with its gas chambers intact, one of the rooms claimed to be a gas chamber has a row of easily breakable windows along one side! Moreover, the doors to one of the purported gas chambers have no locks and can be opened from either the inside or the outside. This is only a sampling of the problems which exist regarding the supposed homicidal gas chambers at all the camps.

The Eyewitnesses

Ah, but what about the eyewitnesses, you ask. Aside from the fact that eyewitness testimony per se is notoriously unreliable, the testimony of Holocaust eyewitnesses is particularly contradictory, inconsistent, and implausible (some have been caught in outright lies). For instance, some survivors of Dachau claim they witnessed gassings at the camp even though historians say no gassings took place there. Orthodox historians have had to pick and choose amongst the testimony to come up with a scenario even remotely believable.

There are the eyewitnesses who claim steam, not gas, was used as the killing agent. Others claim the victims were electrocuted, and that the floor of the chamber opened up, causing the bodies to drop into waiting carts. Some claim they were forced to drag the corpses out of the gas chamber minutes after the victims died, a procedure by which the still lethal fumes would have killed them as well. Some who talk of carbon monoxide as the gas of choice describe corpses tinted blue, but carbon monoxide would have turned them red.

In the library of the Shoah Foundation, dedicated to recording the testimony of eyewitnesses, are videos of many survivors who describe their time in concentration camps in much the same terms Japanese-Americans describe their time in Manzanar and the other camps in which they were interned. One of the survivors describes her fear as she waited for the gas to come out of the showerheads only to have - to her surprise and relief - water come out. Did water *always* come out?

What Really Happened?

In brief, what revisionists believe, or at least this revisionist, is that the German concentration camps were set up for much the same reasons as our internment camps and administered in much the same way. Security was a major factor. The Germans, like us, thought it was more economical and effective to imprison hundreds of thousands of people of a certain ethnicity than to risk allowing the group to live free and risk a couple hundred of them engaging in spying, sabotage, and other acts in support of the enemy.

It should be remembered that the first prisoners confined at Dachau were political opponents of Nazism whatever their religio-ethnic identity. Somewhat similarly, we interned German- and Italian-Americans who were US citizens for their political beliefs at the start of the war. And we used their labor to support the war effort (e.g., making parachutes), though "slave" labor was not nearly so critical for us as it was for the Germans.

The myth of the gas chambers sprang from the horrific toll the use of poison gas in WW I inflicted; the fear, misunderstanding, and bitterness engendered in everyday folk by the war; and the needs of Allied propaganda. It was used at Nuremberg out of necessity to find something we could pin on the Germans we hadn't done ourselves. That it was a myth is testified to by the fact neither Eisenhower nor Churchill nor De Gaulle mention a Final Solution or gas chambers in their memoirs of the war years.

Why Is It Important?

An obvious truism is that we cannot avoid the mistakes of the past if we do not have a clear and accurate understanding of what occurred in the past. The comic book-like caricaturizing of the Nazis – so common in the cinema but found in academic works as well – hardly gives us a complete, objective understanding of the past.

Historians must be free to arrive at a deeper understanding of what really happened in the Holocaust. This is not the case in Europe where Holocaust denial laws inhibit open debate and result in imprisonment of those who attempt it. If something similar was done by a Third World autocracy, the very countries imprisoning those with iconoclastic views on the Holocaust would be howling about human rights violations.

“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it,” opined Santayana. The wisdom of his observation is seen in the treatment meted out to the Palestinians today by the same group victimized in the Holocaust. You can’t say the Israelis do not remember the past (hardly!), but you can say they mis-remember it. Israeli youth, and to a large extent Jewish youth throughout the world, are indoctrinated with a mythical tale of unspeakable horror which cannot but instill in them a fear and loathing of Gentiles, a thirst for revenge, and a self-righteousness which sanctifies any unspeakable acts they themselves might commit.

It’s important the Holocaust be studied, debated, clarified, and learned for the sake of Israelis and of us all.

Resources

I am indebted to all the dedicated scholars who have studied the Holocaust and had the courage to publish their findings; first and foremost, Bradley R. Smith and the others associated with the Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust (CODOH). On their website (www.CODOH.com) is a wealth of materials challenging the Holocaust story as commonly told.

Other resources I have found instructive include:

Books (available on Amazon and elsewhere)

The Gas Chamber of Sherlock Holmes by Samuel Crowell
(a treatise on how the gas chamber myth got started)

The Founding Myths of Modern Israel by Roger Garaudy
(an overview of the Holocaust and other myths)

Republican Party Animal by David Cole
(the revealing autobiography of a noted revisionist)

Videos (viewable on YouTube and elsewhere)

One Third of the Holocaust by Denierbud
(a study of the Operation Reinhardt “Death” Camps)

Auschwitz: The Surprising Hidden Truth by Denierbud
(exposes the problems with the conventional story)

Buchenwald: A Dumb Dumb Portrayal of Evil by Denierbud
(the myths surrounding an infamous camp)

The Treblinka Archaeology Hoax by Eric Hunt
(the problems with a dig at a “death”/”transit” camp)

The Madjanek Gas Chamber Myth by Eric Hunt
(the only camp with its gas chambers intact examined)