

## Historical Timeline

- **May 26, 1924:** Immigration Act of 1924 is passed by the U.S. Congress; the legislation drastically cut the total number of immigrants allowed into the United States each year and put into place a strict quota system.
- **March 13, 1938:** the *Anschluss*: Austria was annexed to Germany and became a part of the Third Reich. German anti-Jewish laws were immediately implemented, which forced Jews out of Austrian society, economy, and culture. By 1939, Jewish business were confiscated or closed by the government.
- **Summer 1938:** Mauthausen concentration camp in Austria was established.
- **August 17, 1938:** All Jews must insert the middle names of “Israel” and “Sara” into all official documents, like passports, making them always identifiable as Jews.
- **September 1938:** Munich Agreement: British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain and other European leaders sign an agreement with Adolf Hitler. The agreement permits the annexation of the Sudetenland (in Czechoslovakia) to Germany in exchange for peace.
- **November 9-10, 1938:** Kristallnacht (crystal night) took place across the Third Reich- including Austria. Synagogues, business, and homes were vandalized and destroyed, and 6,000 Jewish men were arrested and sent to Dachau.
- **May 1939:** only 120,000 Jews are left in Austria, down from 192,000 in pre-war Austria
- **September 1, 1939:** WWII begins when Germany invades Poland. This slowed the process for Jews trying to flee Austria, but another 28,000 were able to flee up through 1942.
- **October 18, 1939:** 1,500 Jews from Austria were deported by Adolf Eichmann SS Lieutenant-Colonel who was Chief of the Jewish Office of the Gestapo to Nisko, Poland.
- **December 1940:** Conditions for Jews in Vienna were at getting worse. They were unemployed, evicted from their homes, bank accounts were blocked or frozen.
- **February and March 1941:** 5,000 Jews were deported to Poland.
- **October 15, 1941:** Systematic deportations begin. Jews from Vienna are sent to ghettos including Lodz, Minsk, Riga and Terezin (Theresienstadt).
- **November 24, 1941:** Theresienstadt established as Ghetto/Transit Camp.
- **January 22, 1942:** Wannsee Conference in Berlin. Meeting to discuss the implementation of the “Final Solution.”

## 1930s Immigration/Emigration Policy: United States and Nazi Germany

<b>1930s: Documents Required for Entrance to the United States</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visa Application</li> <li>• Birth Certificate</li> <li>• Immigration Visa</li> <li>• Two Sponsors</li> <li>• Certificate of Good Conduct</li> <li>• Affidavits of Good Conduct</li> <li>• Evidence of passing a physical exam</li> </ul> <p><i>Click <a href="#">here</a> for a complete overview of the process.</i></p>
<b>Post 1937: Documents Needed from German Authorities to Leave</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passport</li> <li>• Certificate from local police</li> <li>• Certificate from the Reich Ministry of Finance</li> <li>• Customs declaration</li> <li>• Along with the above, one needed valid travel arrangements and entrance visas for another country to leave.</li> <li>• After March 1938 emigrants in Austria (holding that country's passport) needed to apply for a German exit visa.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1938 Anschluss: Austria is annexed by Germany</b>  <i>Austria had special requirements that made the process even more complicated.</i></p>	
<b>Austrian emigration procedures after 1938</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jews had to fill out an emigration questionnaire before they could leave.</li> <li>• Jews had to go through several official channels, pay taxes, obtain confirmations and stamps, and pay taxes and fees. (See chart in Power Point)</li> <li>• Visas were only valid for a limited time, and if they expired the entire administrative process had to start over. Jews immediately try to leave Austria.</li> <li>• Those trying to flee needed exit visas and other documentation were required to stand in long lines, sometimes all day &amp; night.</li> <li>• Jews were forced to pay an exit fee and to register most of their property, which was confiscated with their departure from the country.</li> </ul>

## **Why Didn't Jews Just Leave? Guiding Questions**

### **Document A: Letter from Salo Tuttmann to Dr. Warkany**

1. What is the date of the letter? Look at the timeline. Where does the letter fall into the events taking place?
2. What is Salo Tuttmann asking from Dr. Warkany?
3. What do we learn about Salo Tuttmann and his family from the letter?
4. What does he say about what Dr. Warkany is doing?

### **Document B: Letter from Salo Tuttmann to Dr. Warkany**

1. What is the date of the letter? How much time has passed since the last letter?
2. What has changed in terms of the Tuttmann's situation? How does it fit into the timeline?
3. What do we learn about Salo that might influence his ability to get into the United States? What is he willing to do to leave Austria?
4. Why does he include the photo of his daughter?

### **Document C: Dr. Josef Warkany to Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain**

1. When is the letter dated? Where does the letter fall in his correspondence with Salo Tuttmann?

2. Who is Neville Chamberlain?
3. What do we learn about Dr. Warkany's view on Chamberlin's appeasement policy?
4. Look at the timeline. What happened in March of 1938 that prompted the flood of letters?
5. What did he include with the letter and why do you think he did that?
6. What does he say about the people he is referring to in his letter? Why can they not accept the Nazi policies?

**Document D: Letter from Salo Tuttmann to Dr. Warkany**

1. What is the date of the letter? How much time has passed since the last letter?
2. What war did he fight in and for how long? What does this tell you about Salo?
3. Where was Salo born? Does it appear that this will help or hinder his ability to enter the United States?
4. Look at the timeline as it relates to the date of this letter. What historical event may have played a role in desperation Salo feels to leave Austria?
5. What does he tell us about his extended family?
6. What does he tell us about Dr. Warkany and his family?

**Summary Question:**

Why didn't Jews just leave Europe when Hitler rose to power? Write a claim and support it using two pieces of evidence and analysis from the documents.