



# WARSAW AND LODZ

## The Nazi Ghettoization of Polish Jews

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2osXCjLo0qw>



Węgrzyna



Central Poland, Autumn 1941

- Prior to 1941 and the “Final Solution” of the Jewish problem, Hitler’s Germany was not sure what to do with all the Jews they had to deal with
- From the start they tried to isolate Polish Jews from the rest of the population
- Attempted to make the Jews so vulnerable and contemptible that non-Jews would lose all sympathy for them
- Ghettoization begins in 1939-1940
  - Germans began to force Jews out of their homes in villages, small towns and cities into designated urban areas called ghettos
  - This concentrated and isolated them
  - Germans seized Jewish property and did what they wanted with it
  - Germans forced many Jews in the ghettos to work producing supplies for the war

- Ghettoization was considered a temporary measure from the start
- A number of “next steps” were considered:
  - Jewish reservation in the east, near Lublin



- Another idea was the “Madagascar Plan”
  - Ship all Europe’s Jews to an island off the coast of Africa



- Some suggested using the Jews in the ghettos as enslaved labor
- Others suggested letting the Jews die in the ghettos of disease and starvation





[historyimages.blogspot.com](http://historyimages.blogspot.com)

Ghetto Fighters' House







Ghetto Fighters' House

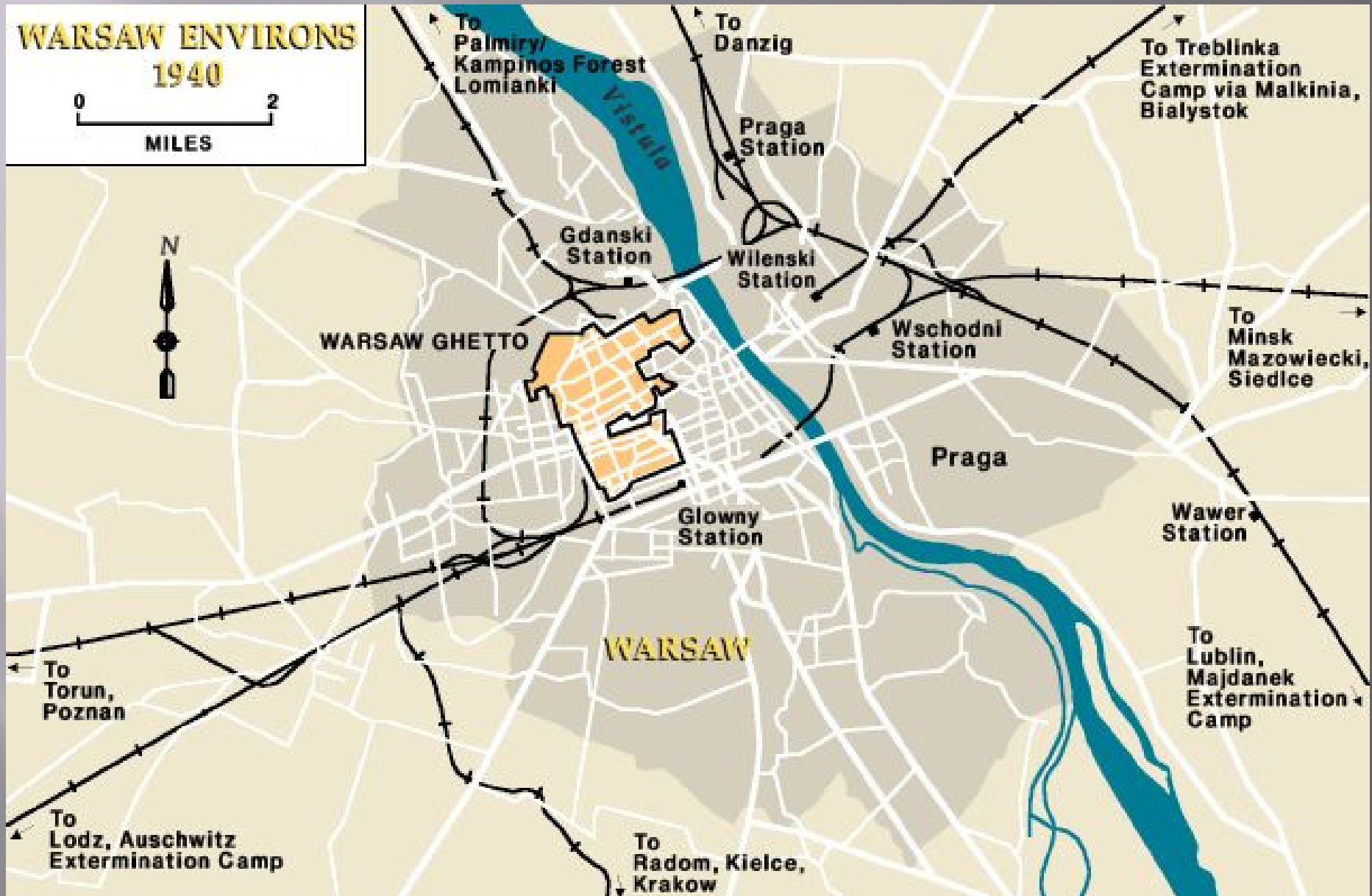


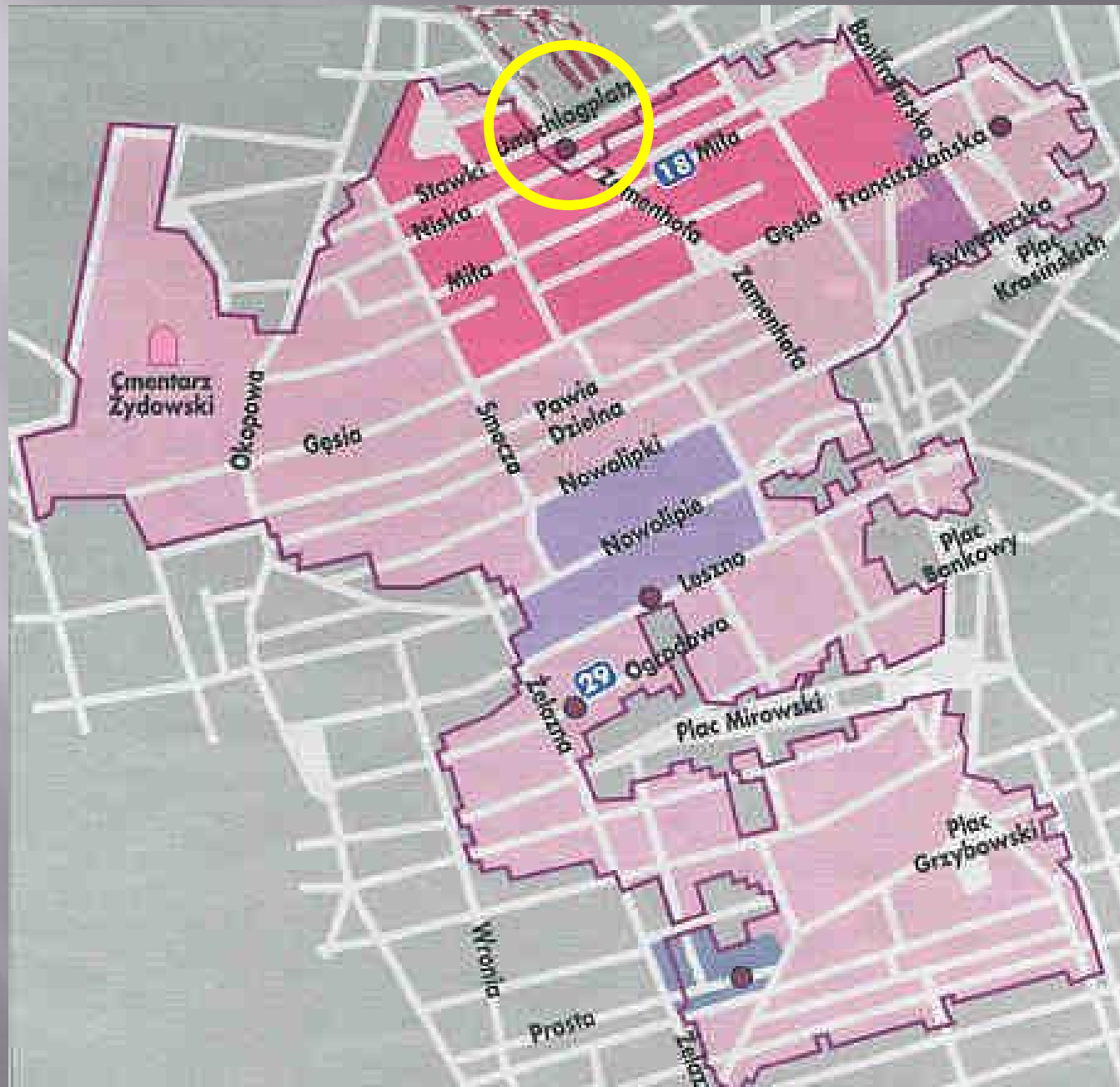
- Between 1939 and 1941 over half a million (500,000) died in the ghettos and labor camps
- Many starved to death, many died from disease brought on by overcrowding and terrible sanitary conditions
- Police, guards and overseers shot and beat others to death



The **Warsaw Ghetto** was the largest of all Jewish Ghettos in Nazi-occupied Europe during World War II. It was established in the Polish capital between October and November 15, 1940, in the territory of General Government of the German-occupied Poland, with over 400,000 Jews from the vicinity crammed into an area of 1.3 square miles. From there, about 254,000 Ghetto residents were sent to Treblinka extermination camp during the two months of summer 1942. The sheer death-toll among the Jewish inhabitants of the Ghetto would have been difficult to compare even with the liquidation of the Ghetto in the spring of the next year during and after the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising which meant annihilation of an additional 50,000 people followed by the actual destruction of the ghetto.

# WARSAW ENVIRONS 1940





- Ghettoization was characterized by deprivation, disease, starvation, overcrowded unsanitary conditions and death
- Wealthy, educated and acculturated Jews competed for scraps of food with Jews who had grown up in poverty
- Strength Through Joy tours of Jewish Ghettos
  - German government-run bus tours of the ghettos
  - Master race could witness the squalor and degeneracy of their alleged inferiors
  - To prove Nazi theories of race and space were true
- The Lodz Ghetto:
  - Second largest ghetto after the Warsaw Ghetto
  - Disastrously overcrowded: Seven people per room
    - 1940: 230,000 people crammed into about 30,000 apartments
    - About 725 only had running water
    - Police did not allow use of lights most of the time
    - Food was extremely scarce: Potato peels were prized item

- Lice and rats thrived
- Typhus and tuberculosis ran rampant
- Hard work was required of everyone who wanted to stay alive
- By 1943 ghetto workshops were making:
  - Uniforms, boots, underwear, and bed linen for the Germany military
  - Goods of metal, wood, leather, fur, down (feathers) and paper even electrical and telecommunication devices
  - People, including children as young as 8, slaved away for pathetically small amounts of food
  - People died in great numbers under these conditions
  - 1940: 6000 Jews died in the Lodz ghetto
  - 1941: 11,000 died
  - 1942: 18,000 died
    - 1941-1942 primary cause of death was deportation to the death camps

















8  
SCHNEIDEREI  
Lehrbrandt  
8

GOC

Unterschrift d. Anstellenden

**ARBEITSAMT-GETTO**

*Legitimations-Karte*

Arbeiter Nr.: 34075 *876*  
 Name: *Minc*  
 Vorname: *Nusen Lajb*  
 geb.: 1935  
 wohnh.: *Wranach 17/18*  
 ist in dem Bezirk No.: 8  
*Schneiderei Lehrbrandt 8*  
 als: *Lehrling*  
 beschäftigt.  
 Tag d. Antritts d. Beschäftigung:

*5495 1208*

des  
von  
**Getto**  
1943



ARBEITSRESSORT  
1943

Unterschrift d. Anstellenden

**ARBEITSAMT-GETTO**

*Legitimations-Karte*

Arbeiter Nr.: 54519  
 Name: *Wilder*  
 Vorname: *Golde Isja*  
 geb.: 1933  
 wohnh.: *in g. 37/18*  
 ist in dem Bezirk No.: 75 Sortierunge-  
 u. Verwertungsstelle f. Abfälle  
 als: *Handtricklerin*

Litzmann

*9/13/4*



ARBEITSRESSORT  
Mühl  
6  
SCHNEIDEREI  
Kühlgasse  
2  
F. Hermannsberg, Ostro

*Abraham Gye*  
 Unterschrift d. Anstellenden

*Abraham Gye*  
 Unterschrift d. Bezirksleiters

Litzmannstadt-Getto, den *1. X* 1943

**ARBEITSAMT-GETTO**

*Legitimations-Karte*

Arbeiter Nr.: 52340 *1064*  
 Name: *Gryo*  
 Vorname: *Abrem*  
 geb.: *8/4 1932*  
 wohnh.: *Kelm 81/1*  
 ist in dem Bezirk No.: 6  
*Schneiderei Mühl 2*  
 als: *Lehrling*  
 beschäftigt.  
 Tag d. Antritts d. Beschäftigung:

Es (Sd) darf die Strasse innerhalb des  
Getto auch nach der Sperrstunde passieren.

*Arbeitsamt-Getto*

Kontrolliert durch *10003*











The landscape after the liquidation of the Ghetto.  
The only Jews left there alive were those who were to do street cleaning.  
They were to be executed after they have finished their job.  
Graves were pre-dug for them, and these holes are preserved.