A. Intent and Purpose

Food in the hands of Germany became one of the most powerful weapons of subjugation and domination. It was one of the tools used for 'invasion' once labeled as Germany’s ‘Lebensraum’.

It also became a means and method for the extermination of the Jewish people.

The plan to use food and starvation as one of the foremost weapons in the biological war of annihilation waged by the Nazi regime to have been conceived and approved on the highest level and then elaborated and executed with additional skill and eeriness by the innumerable military and civil authorities in Germany, the satellite countries, and in the occupied areas under the general supervision of the successive German Ministries of Food and Agriculture, Walter Darré and Herbert Rausch. Reich Marshal Hermann Göring, in his notorious speech of October 4, 1942, wrote:

'IT very clear that...'

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"If retention is unavoidable it will in no circumstances affect Germany. The German people come before all other peoples for food." (R.L. News, 5 October 1942)

In conformity with this principle, the Germans stripped the occupied countries of the barest necessities, leaving large sections of the population to die of starvation.

A very rigid system of rationing was introduced, based upon racial principles. Dr. Robert Ley, the German Minister of Labor, formulated the "philosophy of the racial rationing system," as far back as January 31st, 1940, by writing in an article in Der Angriff:

"A lower race needs less room, less clothing, less food and culture than a higher race."

The occupied countries served as the granary of the Reich, whereas the native population had to live with a minimum of food.

Field Marshall Keitel, as Commissioneer for the Four-Year Plan, and his Plenipotentiary for the Government General of Poland, wrote, in a confidential instruction addressed to Major-General
Bushrow, Head of the Nuremberg Office for the New-Yor Plan in

Grosnow ordered the setting up a "planned distribution of the

foodstuffs" (loc. cit.), based on the principles set forth in Par. 3.

to be followed:

In connection with the food supply for the population
it must be obtained at all costs that people engaged in con-
"neral or military imports, shall maintain their

officers while the rest of the population shall during the
food shortage, be reduced to a minimum of food.

The Gov. Gen. Dr. Neun Freia and his secretary, Dr.

Hahlors, sent this confidential order to all heads of departments,
chiefs of districts and district and city chiefs with the instruction

to follow strictly the given directions.

As a result a detailed distribution system of rationing

was established with the Jews accepting the lowest rait of the
labor.

D. Jews enlisted out for Service

Dr. Fischer, the Governor of Warsaw, where the largest Jewish

ghetto had been established, stated very plainly:

   of Information, D.A., No. 301-70,
   of Information, D.A., No. 301-70.

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"We shall exterminate this tribe (the Jews). They will disappear due to hunger and exhaustion."

The geographical area of the operations of the German regime of the extermination of the Jews by mass starvation was through

expropriation in the ghettos, labor and concentration camps. The operations followed the well tried method of extermination.

Partly as a preparation for mass starvation, Jews were removed

from all contacts with the farm. Similar legislation was issued

in Germany as early as September 1941. Similar legislation was

proclaimed in Slovenia, Belgium, Poland, and the Netherlands.

In Poland, the same result was achieved through the early intro-

duction of the ghettos. The next indirect step was the prohibition

of the sale of bread, potatoes, sweets and food. This resulted

3 - Voelkl, S. Germany, No. 41.
5 - See Date 4
6 - See Date 1.

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those elements of the Jewish population which had adhered
strictly to the Mosaic laws of the preparation of food from
the consumption of meat. In Eastern Europe, such legislation
affected the majority of the Jewish population.

The first stage in the direct process of mass starvation
was the introduction of restrictions which limited shopping
hours for Jews, a practice which commenced in Germany with the
introduction of sanitary resettlement, under the pretext of segregation
of Jews from "Aryans". The initiators were the municipalities.

In Berlin, for instance, the shopping time for Jews was first
set between noon and 8 P.M. It was later shifted to one hour,
namely 6 to 7 P.M. On January 5, 1940, similar legislation was
introduced in Vienna by Rudolf Hess. Similar steps were
undergone by the police in Prague, and Brno, in Czechoslovakia.

7 - The New York Times, January 14, 1940,
8 - The New York Times, August 3, 1940,
9 - Der ständige Bericht der Sozialdemokratischen Partei Deutschlands,
Porto, No. 1, 1939, pp. 93-94,
10 - Jüdisches Nachrichtenblatt, Prague, February 7, 1941,
Jüdisches Nachrichtenblatt, Prague, March 14, August 12, November 14,
28, 1941; Jüdisches Nachrichtenblatt, Prague, April 17, 1942.
In Slovakia, police actions were followed by legislation of the Ministry of the Interior which first confined Jews to workshops before 30 P.M., and later barred them completely from markets.

In Banská Bystrica, shopping hours were restricted by municipal police, while in Komárno and Trencsén the Rachmaninoff and Dranska, each semester were introduced by the Kilian.

Restriction in shopping hours for Jews was closely followed by restrictions of access to places of shopping. A decree of Gesser excluded Jews in Slovakia from restaurants and markets, and an edict declared the right to refuse to sell food to Jews. In Banská, for instance, only three stores were open to Jews in 1940. In Komárno, 33 stores were unwilling to sell food.

11 - Frankfurter Zeitung, 4., January 28, 1941, p. 78.
12 - Frankfurter Zeitung, 4., July 16, 1941.
13 - Frankfurter Zeitung, 4., November 18, 1941.
14 - Frankfurter Zeitung, 4., December 19, 1941.
15 - Frankfurter Zeitung, 4., July 20, 1942.
16 - Frankfurter Zeitung, 4., July 17, 1942.
17 - Frankfurter Zeitung, 4., November 25, 1941.
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In the 30,000 Jews present there in December 1940, in Warsaw
before the establishment of the ghettos, there were 30 dictators
with Jewish populations of up to 8,000 where no food store was open.

In June, stricter restrictions were introduced in various localities
in General, Co-chalabiska, Slovakia. To prevent the evasion of
these restrictions, legislation provided for the ban on deliveries
of food from stores to Jewish consumers, prohibited the receipt
by Jews of food as a gift and the purchase of food for Jews by
their gentile friends or relatives, or secretly outside the
ghetto.

16 - Debatia Zydowska, December 6, 1940.
17 - Wroclaw, Reprint, September 3, December 6, 1940.
18 - Universal, Bucharest, August 31, 1941; Berliner Zeitung,
No. 5, 1942; in AfE; Polnischer Zeitung, Stuttgart, November 4, 1942;
Juedisches Nachrichtenblatt, Prag, April 17, 1943; Slovakisches
Nachrichtenblatt, Bratislava, No. 15, July 16, 1943.
19 - Postowe Wsk., August 2, 1940; Sammlung der Originalen und
Verhandlungen des Prozesses gegen den Huhn und Drachmann, No. 125,
October 24, 1941, p. 275; see also Judisches Nachrichtenblatt, Prag, October 31, 1942.
20 - Sammlung der Originalen und Verhandlungen des Prozesses
21 - Omena, November, No. 423, November 24, 1941; Zwadniar Zeitung,
July 10, 1944; Szabadik, April, July 20, 1944; Sovetskaia Ukraina,
July 17, 1944; Debatia Zydowska, February 24, 1941; Szabadelki,
Debrecen, February 24, 1941; P stylish Zeitung, Bessarabia, November 14, 1943;
Feldhale, November, Dec. 27, 1943;
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In Rumania, differences in food prices were introduced for Jews who had to pay more than double the general price for bread. The early exclusion of Jews from the wholesale food business further facilitated the sale of more expensive, vitamin-deficient foods. The situation for Jewish bread was irreversible for Jews to stock up on food.

The special denazification of ration cards by letter J or the issuance of cards of a distinct color to Jews facilitated further the strategy of mass starvation. This practice began by local German officials under the pretext of providing food supplies to the Jewish population. The practice became the law for Germany and most satellite countries.

15 - Berlin, August 20, 1941.
34 - TESCH, August 22, 1943; Slovenska: Electronic, No. 100, September 2, 1943, Tom Knecht, Papei, Germany, p. 10.
35 - Der Schutzhäusler, December 41, 1943; Spoo-Wunder has died, January 7, 1944; Spoo-Wunder, February 24, 1944. In Rumania, the concept of the Jewish food market was made with a cancellation slide (Tischl, Nov. 10, 1944); De Poitier, November 1, 1944.
36 - Slavonic Slavonic, October 3, 1943, Slovenska: Electronic, November 9, September 27, October 14, 1943.

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The next step was the banning of certain foods for Jews.

Here and now foods were taken off the special Jewish ration list, An

order by the Minister of Agriculture of Bohemia-Moravia (Czechoslovakia)

dated 23 October, 1941 provided:

All delivery to Jews, whether free of charge or for
payment, of fruit of any kind, fresh dried, or otherwise
processed, including roots: of asparagus, beans, canary, carots,
fish and fish products of any kind, and of poultry and game
of any kind including shellfish, is forbidden. This prohibition
shall also apply to growers, processors, merchants, and consumers. 24

Fruits, fruit juices and vegetables were forbidden to Jews by

different laws in Bohemia-Moravia, Poland, Germany. Most originally

24 - Gesetz über die Gewährung des Protektorats-Böhmens

und Mähren, No. 100, October 23, 1941, p. 1793; see also Judenordnung

Böhmens und Mähren, No. 1, October 21, 1941.

25 - Zeitung der Gesetze und Verordnungen des Protektorats Böhmens

und Mähren, No. 103, August 14, 1942, p. 1403; Gesetz über die Gewährung

des Protektorats-Böhmens und Mähren, No. 109, November 11, 1941, p. 1500;

Kollektiv-Essen, quoted by Balatka Palkov, August 15, 1942.

May 15, 1943, on vegetables, fruits, fish, poultry: The New York Times,

February 2, 1943, on white flour, wheat bread: Refugee Journal, quoted

by New York Post, February 9, 1943; on eggs and fruit juices:

Stinnewaldtletter Redoute, July 20, 1943, on milk. As to general food

conditions in Polish ghettos, see: eyewitness reports published by the

Jewish Daily Forward, New York, June 18, 1942; Palestine Post, New

York, July 22, 1942; "Behind the Walls," Collaborator, New York, February 23,

1943; also the depredations of Germans who reached Palestine from Poland

in November 1942 under an armistice agreement with the German government,

accompanied by the occupation of Polish Jews in Jerusalem; Judenrat

Wein-Grundmeier, December 20, 1939; February 26, 1940; The Day Book

Yiddish, January 30, 1940; Die Abend, Berlin, April 11, 1942; Prewar News:

Correspondence to the Jewish Daily Forward, June 26, 1942 and in the New

Yorker, New York, May 20, 1942; The New York Observer, April 26, 1942; The Sun,

New York, June 11, 1940.

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The next step was the banning of certain foods for Jews.

More and more foods were taken off the special Jewish portions. An

order by the Minister of Agriculture of Bohemia-Moravia (Czechoslovakia)
dated 23 October, 1943 provided:

Any delivery to Jews, whether free of charge or for payment, of fruit of any kind, fresh bread, or otherwise prepared, including rolls; of mamalkeet, jam, cakes, pastries, fish and fish products of any kind, and of poultry and game of any kind including chicken, is forbidden. This prohibition applies with equal force to wholesalers, producers, processors, manufacturers and consumers.

Fruits, fruit juices and vegetables were forbidden to Jews by

different laws in Bohemia-Moravia, Poland, Germany. Most originally

(28 - Bericht der Gesetze und Verordnungen des Protektorats Böhmen
und Mähren, No. 193, October 20, 1943, p. 1494; see also Gesetzliche
Machbarkeitsgesetz, Prag, October 20, 1941,

27 - Bericht der Gesetze und Verordnungen des Protektorats Böhmen
und Mähren, No. 191, October 15, 1943, p. 1495. Bericht der Gesetze
und Verordnungen des Protektorats Böhmen und Mähren, No. 195,
November 15, 1943, p. 1719. Bericht der Gesetze und Verordnungen des
Protektorats Böhmen und Mähren, No. 196, November 11, 1943, p. 1889.

26 - Zentraler Austausch, quoted by Robert Polak, August 3, 1943: News
Weekly, May 15, 1944, re vegetables, fruits, fish, poultry. The New York
Tribune, February 9, 1943, re wheat flour, meat broth. Spiegelau zettung, quoted
by New York Post, February 14, 1943, re eggs and fruit juices;

Littmannstrecker Zeitung, July 12, 1942, re milk. As to general food
conditions in Poland, see: eyewitness reports published by the
Jewish Daily Forward, New York, January 12, 1942; Robert Polak, New
York, July 21, 1942; "Behind the Walls," Gabrielle, New York, February 20,
1942. See the denouncements of persons who fled from Palestine from Poland
in November 1942 under an exchange agreement with the German government,
consented by the representation of Polish Jewry in Jerusalem: Zydowska
Wolnostaw, December 20, 1942; February 23, 1943; The Big New
York Times, January 24, 1943; The Jewish Forum, April 3, 1943; Ein-Altene
Abendpost in the Jewish Daily Forward, June 18, 1942 and in the Arif
Volkszeitung, New York, May 26, 1942; The New York Foret-Telegram,
April 26, 1942; The Sun, New York, June 21, 1942.)

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Forbidding to most Jews under the guise of the anti-Jewish laws
[repetition of the Soviet method of falsifying evidence], was
further reduced by the cynical prohibition of work and its products
because "of the Jewish religion and an eating aversion" in Bohemia-
and
Reports, and Testimonies, that were given off the ration of the Jews
of Bela, early in 1940, and those of Warsaw in May of the same
year. Similarly Jews were removed from milk in Budapest, and
Germany. By 1942, Jews in Poland were forbidden to eat

60 - Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, January 20, 1942.
62 - Daily Yiddish, August 22, 1942.
63 - Daily Yiddish, June 24, 1942.
64 - Daily Yiddish, May 31, 1940; an eyewitness report
in the Jewish Daily Forward, June 17, 1942.
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All meat, poultry, fish, eggs, milk, vegetables, white flour, white bread, fruits and fruit juices.

In the same year the Jews in Norway had to get along without poultry, fish, eggs, milk, fresh vegetables, dried legumes, flour, white bread, rye, fruits, vegetables, coffee and tea and their substitutes.

In addition Jews were always excluded from the so-called special exemptions. They were also forbidden to consume unleavened bread.

Footnotes:
Eventually, the Nazi and bolshevik began to cut rations for food. The amount of rations permitted to Jews with the result that exceptional rationing were the rule everywhere. Experiment on Jewish inmates in concentration camps, were the basis for the starvation diets for the Jews nearly here. A report on December 1941 stated that "the Jews receive only half the amount that allowed to 'normal' prisoners." In November 1941 the Deutsche Ruhm in Caucasus announced that the Jews of Riga were receiving only half the rations allotted to the Latvian population. In Lithuania, where German received twice as much food as the native population, Jews received half the Lithuanian ration. In January 1943 in Lithuania, the bread rations for Jews were cut to 51 kg, but in February 1943, it was reduced to 42 kg. As for Christians, while in May 1942 sugar rationed for

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Jews in the same country amounted to 7 oz. monthly compared to
2 oz. for Christians, to be lowered to 3 1/2 oz. per month
by September.

The most drastic picture of starvation was seen in the
provinces of Poland. In September 1940, Jews in Warsaw were
receiving slightly more than 1 1/2 lbs. of bread per week,
compared to the Polish ration of about 3 lbs., to decline
to one lb. weekly by the summer of 1941. Potato consumptions,
amounting early in 1941 to 6.4 lbs. per week, declined in June
of the same year to 1.4 weeks, while sugar rations dropped
to 1.3 oz. per week. Comparative figures are most revealing.
Jews obtained only 26% of the bread ration for Poles in the
General Government; 20% of the Greek and Belgian rations;
25.1% of the French; 18% of the Dutch; 26% of the Norwegians;
28% of the Czech and only 20% of the Germans.

43 - Timpal, Mar 20, 1942; Universal, September 11, 1943.
44 - Gazeta Srodowiska, September 17, 1940; Gazeta Srodowiska, November
15, 1940. In Spisowo-Mieloicki, the bread ration in July 1941 amounted
to only 73 grams daily, or 592 grams weekly (Gazeta Srodowiska, July 15,
1941); cf. fn. 61 supra; also Polish Famine Study Review, December 1,
1942.
45 - The allotment of potatoes to Jews amounted to 100 kg. yearly in
Sobienow, Bedzin, Chrzanow-Mieloicki, Radziezow-Mieloicki (Gazeta
Srodowiska, October 10, November 28, December 21, 1940). In the towns of
Kharkow and Endecape the allotment amounted to 200 kg. (Gazeta Srodowiska,
November 28, 1940); Gazeta Srodowiska, August 1, 1941; Polish Famine Study
Review, December 1, 1942.
46 - Polish Famine Study, November 15, 1941; Maritime Famine and
Consumption, 1942, p. 22; cf. fn. 63 supra.
47 - Feast 1 in Waris Zab and E. Novakovic, Starvation in Europe; Exhibit E.