

Trudy Gold | The Eichmann Trial Eichmann Biography and Capture

- Welcome back, everybody. Hi, Trudy. Hello again. Lovely to see you. So I'm going to hand over to you now, and you're going to be discussing the Eichmann Biography and Capture. Very good. Thanks. Over to you. Bye-bye.

- Bye, Wendy. Well, good afternoon, good evening everyone. Can I have the first slide, please, Shauna?

Visual slides are displayed and referenced throughout the presentation.

Well, there you see the picture of Adolf Eichmann. And tonight, we're running this as a series of three, and tonight, I'm going to talk about Eichmann's biography, his capture, and why the Eichmann trial was so relevant. Now, Eichmann was actually captured in May 1960. He was put on trial on 11 April 1961. This trial, it was one of the first important trials to be televised, and it attracted worldwide interest.

And it also really sparked a serious interest in what was the Shoah. You know, when I studied history, the Shoah was treated with respect, but it was very much a footnote in history. It was really the beginnings of the Eichmann trial that opened up the floodgates. In Israel itself, you've got to remember that in 1945, the image of the Shoah, and then in Israel, about a quarter of the population of Israel were Holocaust survivors. And for a long time, either they didn't talk, or nobody wanted to listen to them. If you think of the mantra of the famous Abba Kovner, "We will never again go like sheep to the slaughter," and now, and it absolutely churns me up to put these ideas before you, but it was almost as though the Shoah itself was a shame, asunder on the Jewish people.

But once the whole notion, and I think Ben-Gurion quite deliberately wanted a trial that would last for months, where survivors would be witnesses to actually unveil the absolute horror of what had happened to the Jewish people and other minorities under the extraordinarily evil regime of the Nazis. And the trial made headlines throughout the world. Speaking personally, I was at a nice English public school in Surrey, I knew about the Holocaust, but not really, and it was reading the Eichmann trial, and it made me feel so alienated from those nice English girls I studied with.

I suppose in many ways, it actually made me a Jew, as later on, the '67 war kind of reinforced that side of my Jewish consciousness. But in a much more important way, it began the opening up of so many areas of study. Some survivors have written testimony. Wasn't really very much publicised, "The Diary of Anne Frank" appeared in English in 1958, but it was very, it wasn't yet the important book it later became. There was a couple of serious books in the English language, Raul Hillberg's "The Destruction of European Jewry," and Lucy Dawidowicz "The War Against The Jews," but it's after the Eichmann trial that the floodgates open. And not only that, in film. There had been films made on the show, a documentaries in particular, but there weren't

many of them, and they were mainly made in Europe.

They weren't coming out of Britain, they weren't coming out in the English-speaking world. And then, ironically, it was over to Hollywood. Films like "Exodus", "Cast a Giant Shadow", "Judith", "Judgement at Nuremberg", which of course Dennis Davis showed us clips from a few weeks ago, brilliant film, "Ship of Fools", "The Pawnbroker," more and more, and more interest in the Shoah. And another side-effect of the Eichmann trial is 20,000 young Germans volunteered to work on the Kibbutz Movement. So from the point of view of historiography, I think we have to accept the fact that the Eichmann trial itself was, if you like, the beginnings of an attempt at understanding. Now, when I say that, the beginnings of an attempt at understanding, I don't believe I will ever really understand. And the more I know, the less I understand.

And I'm hoping, particularly when Dennis looks at the trial, and on Thursday, when Dennis is in conversation with Professor David Pina about the whole issue of the Banality of Evil and Hannah Arendts raised that maybe we can come up with some sort of solutions. Because if I can begin with a poem of Leonard Cohens about Adolf Eichmann, colour of hair, brown. Colour of eyes, brown. Build, medium, what did you expect? Horns, talents, so who was this man and what was his background? And is there anything we can actually draw from that? Well, his dates are 1906 to 1962. He came from a Calvinist family, a relatively religious family. He was born in Germany. His father was a bookkeeper.

His father was lower-middle class. His mother was a housewife. He was the eldest of five children. The family moved to Linz in 1913. He became a commercial manager for the Linz tramway and the family followed a year later. His mother died and the father then remarried a devout Protestant, and he acquired two stepbrothers. He attended a state secondary school. And could we please see the school? Can we have the next slide? This is an interesting school for many reasons. It wasn't just the school that Eichmann went to, it was also the school that Hitler had attended 17 years earlier. Linz is a strange place. I mean, I managed to lecture there a couple of years ago. I was invited to lecture on anti-Semitism in Linz, and it gave me the most extraordinary feeling. It's a very clean, neat, pretty little town.

And that was the town where both Hitler and Eichmann attended school. And ironically, when Hitler was there, a young man called Wittgenstein was also at that school. We know that he was relatively musical. He played the violin, he joined a sports club. And as was very fashionable in many of these schools, the sports club also had a branch that where they would take the boys scouting, Wonder Craft, they called it. And there were also groups of older boys, which would've introduced him to the right-wing militias. Now, he had a very poor academic record. He goes to a vocational school, he leaves without a degree, and his father is now involved in a mining company. He worked for several months as a sales clerk for a radio company.

And the fact now he's living in upper Austria and in Salzburg, and he's a district agent for a vacuum company. But before I go on, I need to point out to you that at the end of the first World War, remember he come, although he, they were in Solingen, they go back to Austria. He was a

German Austrian. And at the end of the First World War, the Habsburg Empire, which comprised of 15 different national groups was dismembered. So this once great empire of which people like Eichmann's family, German Austrians, would've seen themselves as the superior group. That empire is now lost to them. And for example, Vienna, the capital, which was once the centre of an empire, is now the home of a rump country with only 7 million people.

And ironically, at the end of the war, the Austrians asked for Anschluss. They said, "Can we have a president that spends six months in Germany and six months in Austria?" And it was actually denied them. So he's working in Salzburg, he's got, I suppose we, what are we talking about? We're talking about a lower middle class type. He's worked for several groups of people. He's now working as an agent for a new vacuum company. Very much part of the modern world. But is he really? And I think many of these characters, let's have a look at the next slide please. You're going to see a man called Hermann Hiltl.

Now he of course, had been a serving officer in the Hapsburg army. And he has created, he'd created a right-wing militia group in the Salzburg region. And if you can just imagine these right-wing groups, they hated modernity. They hated the modern world. They wanted to go back to a world of a rural idyll as it were. And it was full of the notions that the German Austrians, the Germans are the master race. And these are the people who are most able to inherit the world. Now, if you think about it, not only was the Hapsburg empire destroyed and the German Austrians are now a rump, but think about Germany itself.

After the first World War, the German empire is destroyed. There is an incredible unemployment problem. There is a total run on the currency. I was speaking in another lecture about the what happened to the Deutsche mark in 1922. In the first month of the year, a dollar would've bought you 18,000 marks. By the end of the year, a dollar would've bought you 4 billion marks. That was the inflation, the unemployment against the backdrop of an incredible artistic renaissance. Those of you who have been listening to Patrick Bades lectures on the Weimar Republic, it was an extraordinary time. And of course, characters like this and the young Eichmann has just joined his unit, they loathe modernity, they see it as diseased, they see it as decadent.

And what they want to go back to is the old world of Germany, German values, whatever that means. And it has very little to do with modern democracy and above all, who is seen as the arbiter of modernity? The Jews. Now the irony was that in Vienna it was called Red Vienna, many of the characters who were trying to make the city more socialist and were of Jewish birth, they wore their Jewishness so very likely the same in Weimar. Who do you think was so involved in the arts scene, the music scene, people like Schoenberg? Think about the film business. These are what I call the non-Jewish Jews, but so many of them.

Max Reinhardt, who was the big theatre director both Vienna and of Berlin, he had 31 theatres. You can imagine the kind of things that are being staged to a right-wing radical group imbued with the notion of the master race. These are the characters who are destroying everything. And don't forget also the image of the Jews communists. So if you need a scapegoat for these kind

of characters, the Jews are the perfect scapegoat. And on the advice of an old friend, a man called Ernst Kaltenbrunner, can we see the next slide please? This is Ernst Kaltenbrunner. He's later going to become head of the Gestapo. He was a family friend of the Eichmanns.

And you can see the Jeweling scar, I hope. Later on, he's going to be executed at Nuremberg. He was a lawyer. And like many of them, a talented musician. One of the problems you have to face when you are dealing with these characters is many of them were highly intelligent. I don't think Eichmann was, but certainly Kaltenbrunner was, highly intelligent. And also they considered themselves to be very cultured. So on the advice of his friend, Kaltenbrunner, who's older than him, he decides to join the Austrian Nazi party, which in fact was illegal.

I should mention that Kaltenbrunner, when I said he was chief of the, he's actually chief of the Reich security main office. He's head of not just the Gestapo, but also the SD. And later on when Heydrich was assassinated, I'll talk about that later. He succeeds him and he was the highest ranking SS officer to actually be executed at Nuremberg. Now, when the Nazis came to power in Germany, he loses his job in Austria due to staff shortages because the Nazi party is banned in Austria. Although you're going to see a regime of what we call Austrofascism.

Nevertheless, the leaders of that regime did not want Anschluss, and they were against the Nazi party. So at this stage, he leaves Fort Germany and in he flees to a place called Passau, again, absolutely beautiful city on the Rhine. And as a member of the Nazi party, he's assigned to training other Nazis, and also acting as a liaison officer for any Austrian Nazis who crossed the border into Germany and also to smuggle Nazi propaganda back into Austria. He's promoted to corporal and his battalion was actually quartered in a barracks next to Dachau. Very early on in April 1933, Hitler had established the first concentration camp in Dachau, which is about 12 kilometres from the beautiful city of Munich.

And of course, it was actually announced on the front page of the Times, what I want to say to you very carefully is that most of the events of the regime received wide publicity in the Western press. His next job, he was actually assigned to work on free masonry. Now, the Nazis had a real thing about free masonry. They considered it evil and a plot that could potentially destroy Nazism. So he's accepted into the SD, remember, Kaltenbrunner is his patron, and he prepares an exhibition on the evils of free masonry. Of course, Kaltenbrunner attends and it's attended by Hitler and a man called Baron Leopold von Mildenstein, who invited Eichmann to join him.

And he his head of what we call the Jewish department because not only were the Nazis persecuting Jews, they'd already introduced the Career Civil Service Act, which threw Jews out of the teaching profession. People like Einstein lost his jobs and many of the great scientists. But what I'd like to say, I think for between 1933 and 1939, what Eichmann is going to be part of is a regime that is going to work for the social economic exclusion and political exclusion of the Jews from German society with a view to get them out of the country. Now this is important. Social, legal, political exclusion. And now Eichmann has joined this department and he is going to become the expert on Jewish affairs.

He is assigned to prepare reports on the Zionist movement, all Jewish organisations. He's a bureaucrat, he is there to assess information. He's very good at figures, he's very good at bureaucracy. One of the most horrific aspects of the show itself is that the show is a modern, bureaucratic technical crime. It could only have happened in the modern world.

Later on, it's Eichmann who has to oversee, with all the trains run on time. When Auschwitz, for example, was established as a killing centre, various departments came together, firms were consulted, architects were consulted, minutes were taken. This is not the blood lust of monsters on the rampage. This is a cool, cold calculated crime. And already he is in charge of preparing reports for his superiors on Jews. He learns a smattering of both Hebrew and Yiddish. This is the reputation he is going to gain. I am the Jewish specialist.

He marries in March '35. He marries a woman called Vera. He's going to have four sons by her. He's promoted. And by 1936, he is an SS second lieutenant, he's in the SS, he's the expert on Jewish affairs. And then he travels to Palestine. Can we please see the next? Yes, he travels to Palestine with his superior Herbert Hagen in 1937 to assess the possibility of Jews actually immigrating to Palestine. In 1933, a deal had been signed between Chaim Arlozorov and Schacht, the head of the Reichsbank.

If Jews were to leave Germany for Palestine, they were allowed to take possessions and goods with them, provided they used German currency and took German goods. 136,000 Jews are going to be saved by going to Palestine during that period. At this stage, the Nazis did think that Palestine might solve their Jewish problem. What they wanted remember is the social, legal and political exclusion of the Jews from German society. Now, Herbert Hagen, just a quick word on him because we have that hard face before us.

During the war, he was the assistant SS police chief in France. He was finally brought to justice in 1980, and he was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment in Cologne for the complicity in the murder of thousands of Jews, 10 years, he got. Anyway, at this stage, he and Eichmann arrive in Palestine with false papers. They go to Haifa, they are met by an agent of the Haganah, a man called Feival Polkes. They go to Cairo. And because the idea is what the Zionists want to do is to extend the Haavara agreement. But by this time, the Nazis are beginning to think that maybe Palestine won't solve the Jewish problem. On the contrary, it might become the centre of Jewish crime and something else is coming into the picture.

If there's going to be a global war, is it going to be in the interests of the Nazis to upset the Arabs? And the leader of the Arab world, of the Palestinian Arabs at this time was a man called Hajj Amin al-Husayni: The Mufti of Jerusalem, who was a vi... I'm going to use the words, he was a violent anti-Semite. And later on he's going to spend the war years in Germany. And he was incredibly useful to Hitler, reviewing Muslim regiments. After the war, we find him in Palestine, then in Egypt. And ironically, after Nasser came to power in Egypt, he was responsible for recruiting quite a few SS officers to come and work for Nasser in the Ministry of

Propaganda, including an extraordinary individual called Leers, a brilliant propagandist.

Anyway, in 1938, he is posted to Vienna. And I'd like you to see please the next slide. Now, this is Hitler on the balcony in Vienna, by the way, in the audience was Unity Mitford. And that is the kind of reception he met when he went home. So after the war, the Austrians managed to put themselves out as the first victim of Nazism. 90% of the population of Vienna were on the streets cheering for Adolf Hitler. And what happened to the Jews of Vienna is beyond imagination and contemplation.

So he's posted to Vienna, he has appointed a first lieutenant, and his job, he sets up the central agency for Jewish immigration, is created in August 1938. And by the time he left in May '39, he'd managed to evict a hundred thousand Jews. When I say he sets up this bureau, what's it about? It's about theft. I want the Jews out, I want all their property. And what we've got to do is try and get them somewhere. And unfortunately, by this time, both the British were beginning to change their minds on Palestine. And also, the other issue is that the countries of the world were not prepared to take many Jewish refugees in. So you have the double sword.

The Nazis want them out, and the countries of the free world aren't prepared to let them in only a very small trickle. Now during World War II, he is under Heydrich, Heydrich is now in charge of the security police and the criminal police. And at first he's posted to Prague to set up an immigration bureau. Then he's transferred to Berlin to set up another immigration bureau. And then of course, and at that time, can we have the next slide please? There you have Heinrich Himmler, Himmler, the chicken farmer boss of the SS with Heydrich, who was Eichmann's immediate superior, an incredibly talented man, a very good musician, an expert fencer. Hitler called him the man with the iron heart, one of the most cruel characters that ever walked the stage of history.

He's later going to be assassinated by a group of Czech partisans. The Nazi revenge was horrific. They destroyed the whole village where the partisans came from and sent the women and children to concentration camps and murdered all the men. Anyway, these are the kind of characters we are dealing with. And can we go on to have a look at his other boss, who is Heinrich Muller, who is the head of the Gestapo under Heydrich. He is central to the planning of what the Nazis call euphemistically the final solution. And he disappeared in 1945. So in December, 1939, war starts remember in September '39 with the invasion of Poland and what is now going to happen to the Jews is a gradual policy of isolation in ghettos. When the Nazis conquered Poland, they now had three and a half million Jews under their control.

So what's Hitler going to do with these people? It's the holding pen. On the 15th of August 1940, hi, Eichmann came up with a plan called the Madagascar Project. Would it be possible to send all the Jews to the island of Madagascar? The plan didn't disappear until February 1942. The problem was that the British Navy, that plan had first been suggested, ironically, by a right-wing French government to get rid of their in the late '30s. So it wasn't invented by the Nazis. And then of course, June the 20th, 1941, the invasion of the Soviet Union back in August 1939, the

world had been absolutely stunned when Hitler and Stalin, the two ideological enemies, actually signed a non-aggression pact.

What happened then was Hitler rolled in from the west, Stalin rolled in from the east. Ideologically, Nazism was completely opposed to what they called Jewish Bolshevism. But it bought Hitler the time to conquer most of Europe. And if you think of the map of Europe at the time, people were either, there were very few countries that had held out. Spain of course was neutral, so was Switzerland, so was Sweden.

England stood alone on June the 20th, 1941, England stood alone. And if it wasn't for the extraordinary will, you know, people can change the course of history. If it wasn't for the extraordinary will of Winston Churchill, who knows what would've happened with England? Anyway, Hitler makes the decision to roll into Russia, against the advice of many of his generals because Russia has never successfully been invaded from the west. Following the German army on a huge sweep was the Einsatzgruppen. Einsatzgruppen were 3,000 elite SS officers. The majority of them had PhDs from top German universities. How do I know that?

Because German historians have examined their records, aided and abetted by SS units from, particularly from the Baltic states, by local police units, also by regiment parts of the German army. They were responsible for shooting one and half million people between the invasion of Russia and the beginning of 1942. Men, women, and children. Now, something went wrong. Either bullets were too expensive and some of these wonderful characters, these wonderful strong SS officers were going mad. They were drinking too much.

And the Nazis decided that they have to change policy. They're still going to merge because you see what's happened. First it begins with let's get them out of Germany. Then there's nowhere for them to go, so let's pin them in. And what's happening in Poland is gradually Jews are being moved in further east. And now with the invasion of Russia, there can be no . So now extermination, and the issue is how on earth can ordinary people shoot men, women, and children like that? And somewhere along the line is a dehumanisation process, which is I'm sure is something that Professor Pima and Judge Dennis will talk about on Thursday.

But certainly, this is one of the most horrific examples that I can think of in human history. Rabbi Hugo Gryn, who survived the camps, he said something, but I've always felt so profound, he said, "You've got to understand that what the Nazis did was to overturn the 10 Commandments." Just leave it at that for you to think about. Anyway, it's Eichmann who receives all the reports from the Einsatzgruppen. And on the 31st of July, Goring had given Heydrich written authorization to prepare the plan for the total solution of the Jewish problem. That is the kind of euphemistic language. Eichmann later stated in his trial that that Heydrich told him by mid-September that Hitler had ordered the murder of all the Jews of Europe and by this time, Eichmann, who is the good bureaucrat, the good servant to his masters is promoted to lieutenant colonel. And then he is ordered to create a conference.

Now, why? Bullets are expensive. Too many SS offices are having problems. We're not doing it quickly enough. We're not doing efficiently enough to get you into the heart of darkness, the Nazis were already murdering, the mentally and physically infirmed Germans. They were using gas. It had started by lethal injection administered by doctors who no doubt had taken the Hippocratic Oath, but it wasn't fast enough. And then a man in the chancery, a man called Brach, came up with a solution of using gas. And they were beginning to experiment with mobile vans. How can we do it more efficiently?

And what happened at Wannsee, which is January the 20th, 1942, what happens at Wannsee is that 16 government ministries send representatives. Can we see the next slide please?

Wannsee, I don't know... I know some of you will have visited the Wannsee house. Wannsee is about half an hour from Berlin. It's on a lake, can we see the second slide, Shauna? That's the front of the house. And I showed you the rear, it's a beautiful estate. It's part of one of the most expensive, lovely areas where the wealthy would've had their summer villas. It's on a lake.

And before it was used for this, it was actually a rest and recreation home for the SS. So a retired SS officer would go there either with his wife or girlfriend and just imagine all the information that would have been spilt, thousands of people knew what was going on. And it's in the Wannsee Villa that the Nazis actually write down the final solution. Now it's retroactive because it's already happening. And Eichmann, who is in charge of the Wannsee meeting, he is in charge of making sure that all the papers are prepared, of making sure that all the people who sit around the table are well briefed. So who was present?

Well most of them were doctors of law. There were two SS from Latvia and Lithuania. Can I see the next slide please? Eichmann was the arch-efficiency man. Here you see lists of Jews, country by country, okay? Those who have been conquered. Section B, you will see countries that are allied to or are neutral. And you will also see countries at war, England, for example. England, the 330,000 Jews of England are mentioned, in 11 in to this is the European mainland. Now how on earth did he get the numbers? Well, it's not difficult, he was a bureaucrat.

He researched, he had hundreds of people working for him. So if you actually read some of the Einsatzgruppen documents, they list town by town, lineage by lineage, the number of people killed. And here you have the Nazi hit list and who were present at the meeting, representatives of the chancellery, representatives of the four-year plan, the economic plan. And the whole debate was how do we do it and how do we do it efficiently. Frank, who was the governor of the largest part of Poland, he sent representatives and he was very worried that he's going to have to feed his Jews. And he doesn't want... The kind of in-house arguing between the SS, not one mention that they're dealing with human beings, but how can we do it efficiently?

And it also, what it was also about was that it gave Heydrich the total authority. Because those of you who have read a lot on the Nazis, and I'm sure many of you would've done, there was a lot of infighting. Would it be Borman? Was it Himmler? Who was really closest to Hitler, who was really in control? And this is Heydrich's meeting with his number two bureaucrat, Eichmann,

preparing all the meetings. And as I said, he'd done his homework. The numbers are more or less right and there is one tragic entry, not here, but in another part of the document which says Estonia, free of Jews because they'd already been shot. So they are the figures.

Can we move on please to the next slide? If you don't mind, Shauna. Now the deportations begin and it's called Operation Reinhard, In honour of Heydrich who has been shot. He didn't actually make policy, Eichmann, but he acted in an operational capacity. His department was constantly in conversation with the foreign office. He has regular meetings in Berlin. Because also he has to talk to the transport people if the trains are going to run on time. What about military concessions? What has priority? One of the reasons Auschwitz was chosen as a death camp, and there were six death camps, all in Poland, was on the main Vienna-Krakow railway line. This is efficient murder, it's the efficiency of death and this is the man who is in charge of it. He would often go to the camps to inspect. And his last major assignment was actually in Hungary. Hungary was not attacked until April 1944, the Jews of Hungary.

Why? Because Hungary was allied to Germany. And even though the Jews were subjected to appalling laws, nevertheless, the majority of them had not been deported. Following the German army into Hungary, excuse me, went to Eichmann. And by the last week of April '44, he assesses the situation, he goes to Auschwitz to make sure preparations have been made. And on the 16th of April '44, the roundups begin. The figures are almost too horrific to bear. From the 14th of May, which is ironically later on, four years later, that was the day the state of Israel was proclaimed. Think of the death marches, and four years later, the state of Israel. From the 14th of May until the 6th of July, 437,000 people were murdered.

Auschwitz was taking 12,000 people a day. It is beyond comprehension. Now this is something very, you know, Eichmann always tried to claim that he was just the bureaucrat, obeying orders. He was actually ordered to stop the deportations, but he let them go on two days beyond, on the 17th to the 19th of July, he sent additional trains to all Auschwitz disobeying Himmler's orders. It's another story, a different time why that happened. And I'll be dealing with it later on in the course. And he was so angered by the suspension of deportations that he asked to be reassigned. And in October and November 1944, he returns to Budapest and this is after Himmler had begun to want the dismemberment of the camps.

He's trying to do a deal with the Americans and the British. And it's at this stage, Eichmann returns to Budapest and arranges for thousands of Jews to go on a death march back to Vienna. By the 24th of December 1944, he realises the Russians are very near. He flees Budapest where he returns to Berlin. And what does he do in Berlin? He goes to Gestapo headquarters to oversee the burning of the records. And then he goes to Austria where he lives in relative safety until the war is over. Now, the war is over. He is captured by the Americans and put off in an SS camp for officers. He had forged papers and he went onto the name of Otto Eckmann.

He managed to escape from a work detail when he realised that his identity had been

discovered, he had new identity papers, a man called Otto Heninger now, and he relocates frequently. He moves because at the Nuremberg Trials, his name comes up time and time again, particularly when Hoss commandant at Auschwitz talks about Eichmann. So he lives on the margins, he works in forestry in the Lower Saxony. And he lives there till 1950. Because he's implicated, a lot of the SS are worried about him. And what happens at this stage is he decides that he has to get out of Europe. I should mention that Hoss who was, gave evidence where he actually implicated Eichmann, because remember he was the commandant and Eichmann was always visiting. When Hoss, to read his testimony, it's absolutely fascinating.

He was actually interviewed by an American psychologist, a Jew, and asked how he did it. And he just gave the process. And he wrote an essay on the final solution when he was in Krakow. And he says, he wrote, "I can only remember the figures mentioned in the larger actions repeated to me by Eichmann and his deputies." And he gave a list of the numbers he could remember murdering 250,000 from upper Silesia, a hundred thousand from Germany and Theresienstadt, 95,000 from Holland. Unbelievable that he just remembered these figures and he was later turned over to the Poles where he was executed.

He was actually executed in Auschwitz. Now, so Eichmann decides he needs to get out. So can I have the next slide, please? And now we have a very strange man, a man called Alois Hudal. Alois Hudal, his dates are 1885 to 1963. He was the son of a shoemaker from Graz. He'd studied theology, he was ordained, his specialism was the Slav Eastern churches. From 1933 onwards, he embraces pan-Germanism. He wanted to be a servant and a herald of the German cause. He was violently anti-Semitic. He said, the Jews are of people who sought to set themselves apart and dominate.

They are connected with nefarious movements, democracy and internationalism. He was an incredibly right-wing cleric at a time when the church found itself to be particularly threatened by communism. He loathed communism and he believed that all communists were Jewish. He also denounced Jewish bankers. The conspiracy, quoting again, they want to become financial masters of the eternal city. He wanted a Christ... His dream was a Christian army, a Christian German army to invade Russia and destroy the Soviets. And his other dream was the reunification of the Catholic church with Eastern churches and the conversion of the Balkans to Catholicism. And he wrote this book, "The Foundations of National Socialism."

And he sent a copy to Hitler and praised Hitler. Alfred Rosenberg, who was the great doctrinaire of the Nazi movement, he was anti-Christian and the two of them clashed. But the point is, this is a man who's a committed Nazi. And he was an Austrian Bishop and he lived in Rome. Now, after the war, Odessa is real, that was the American name for the ratline. And Philippe Sands has written a brilliant book on the ratline, by the way. And I'm hoping, we'll be able to interview him for Wendy's Academy. He ran the ratlines, and some of the people he got out, he managed to get Franz Stangl out the Commandant Treblinka. He found him a job in Damascus.

He got out Roschmann, the "Butcher of Riga." Mengele, Wagner, Alois Brunner. And of course,

he persuade and he does persuade, he manages to obtain a humanitarian passport for the Red Cross and entry permits to Argentina. Eva Peron, Juan Peron, thousands of Nazis were making their way to South America. Later on, as the regimes changed in the Arab world, many of them later on were funnelled back into the Arab world. But you know, when Evita went to Rome, it was a financial deal. What we don't know, and I doubt if we'll ever know to what extent, how high up the chain of command of the ratlines went.

Robert Westrich, along with five other historians, was actually invited into the Vatican to examine the archives when there was a move to beatify Pius XII, but they never got enough access. Access is being offered again, will we ever really know the story of Pius XII, but this man was a Nazi. He survived the war. He remained a professor and he finished up, I think he died in Spain in the end, but a committed Nazi. Anyway, what happened was Eichmann now has a permit for Argentina. So he joins thousands of other Nazis in South America.

A lot of the Odessa had managed to get gold out Jewish gold. One of the issues that we will have to think about the Nuremberg War crimes trials, something like 10% of those guilty of crimes against humanity were actually brought to justice. Why? I'll come onto that in a minute. So he makes it to Buenos Aires on the 14th of July 1950. He works as a government contractor. In 1952, he sends for his family, they move to Buenos Aires. He never really makes it as many of the other Nazis do. He has low paying jobs until finally he becomes a department head at Mercedes-Benz and builds a house on Garibaldi Street. Back in 1956, he was extensively interviewed by a Nazi expat, a Dutch journalist called Willem Sassen, who intended to produce a biography. But it wasn't published until after Eichmann was captured.

Now, the capture of Adolf Eichmann. Let me just check. Yes. The CIA knew that Eichmann was living in Buenos Aires. Simon Wiesenthal, can you see? Can we see the next slide please? If you don't mind. Yes, there you have a picture of the great Simon Wiesenthal. Simon Wiesenthal, who lost 54 members of his own family, had devoted his life to catching Nazi war criminals. And he had a letter sent to him that Eichmann was seen in Buenos Aires, and he passed it onto the Israeli consulate in Vienna. And when Eichmann's father died in 1960, he took photos of members of his family because they didn't have an up-to-date picture of Eichmann and it was known that his brother Otto looked like him. Another clue, a man called Lothar Hermann.

He was half Jewish, he was a German, he'd immigrated to Argentina in 1938. His daughter ironically began dating one of Eichmann's sons who had boasted to her about his father's Nazi past. Herman alerted an incredible man, a man called Fritz Bauer, who was the prosecutor general of Hesse in West Germany. Fritz Bauer was a Jew, he was a homosexual and he had been imprisoned in the war. He'd managed to escape to Denmark and then to Sweden. But at the end of the war, he chose to come back to Germany. Before the war, he'd been a lawyer. He resumed his post and his job. He saw it as his mission to bring Nazis to justice. And he's later going to be responsible for the famous Auschwitz trials. One of the problems that all these characters faced was how denazified could Germany ever be.

You know, if you look at the figures of the people who sat around the table at Wannsee, a third of them died in the war. Another third met accidents or committed suicide between 1945 and 1951, probably the work of an extraordinary Jewish organisation called Din. But another third died in their beds on SS pensions. The problem was, at the end of the war, the allies, the iron curtain, remember that great phrase of Winston Churchill, "An Iron Curtain has descended across Europe." What on earth could happen to Germany? East Germany was communists. The allies needed a country to buffer up against communism.

That's one of the reasons the Austrians were never really in any way found capable in anything to do with the Nazi party, even though Hitler was Austrian, Kaltenbrunner was Austrian, Eichmann was Austrian. Many of the highest echelons of the Nazi party were Austrian, but we need them and also we need Germans. And you know, at the end of the war there was a scramble between the British, the Americans and the Russians, which of the scientists will we get? And the man who headed up the American Rockets programme was of course Dr. Wernher von Braun. So cynicism, governments moving forward, Jews not being a priority.

But the reality was that low-level Nazis were still running the country and not only low-level Nazis. Anyway, Fritz Bauer has been alerted to the fact that Eichmann is living in Garibaldi Street. The daughter of Lothar Hermann actually went on a facts finding mission and was met at the door by Eichmann. Bauer passed the information directly to Mossad to the director Isser Harel, he actually flew to Tel Aviv where he often visited. He was also accused of being a communist sympathiser because on war crimes he dealt with these Germans as well.

But there was no concrete evidence. But Bauer worries away a bit. Interesting, Wiesenthal, was allowed to take most of the credit because the Shin Bet didn't really want the world to know how much it was their operation and how much it was Bauer's operation. Harel dispatches an operator, a man called Zvi Aharoni on the 1st of March 1960. And he finally identifies this man is Adolf Eichmann. It was fascinating because I said that his wife had already gone to Argentina. Now the story was, at the end of the war, Vera Eichmann divorced Adolf Eichmann and then she went to Argentina where she married Mr. Ricardo Klement. On the anniversary of the marriage of Vera and Adolf Eichmann, Ricardo Klement took home a present.

Ricardo Klement was Adolph Eichman. Can we see the picture of Fritz Bauer, if you don't mind? there you have the incredible Fritz Bauer. And those of you who have Prime will know that there's a brilliant film called "The General," it's German, but it's subtitled. It's really worth seeing. That is the story of the famous Fritz Bauer. Anyway, what happens is the decision is made, there's no extradition treaty with Argentina. Ben-Gurion wants him captured, he wants to put him on trial. So Rafi leads the team, they capture him, and what they do is they sedate him and they finally smuggle him out of Argentina, the abduction, the Argentinians go to the UN Security Council, a violation of Argentinian sovereignty.

We now know, as I said before, from the declassification of CIA files that the CIA knew all about him being in Argentina. But there was a reason they didn't want it all made public. Can I see,

can you see? Can we please have a look at the next slide? That is a man called Hans Globke, his dates are 1898-1973. He was a very bright lawyer. He was a judge before the war. And as early as 1932, November '32, before Hitler takes full power in Germany, he wrote a set of rules making it harder for Jews of German ancestry to change their names. December '33, he was appointed to the Russian upper government council. He shaped the enabling act, which actually allowed Hitler to get rid of after the burning down of the German parliament.

The enabling act removed all constitutional liberties. That was February '33, that's how Hitler took over the state. And he dealt with race issues. He actually co-authored the legal commentary on the right citizenship law of '35, which deprived the Jews of citizenship and also the law for the defence of German blood and honour, which made intermarriage a crime. He was a chief advisor to the Office of Jewish Affairs headed by Adolf Eichmann. Frick, who died at Nuremberg, he praised him the most capable and efficient official in my ministry when it comes to drafting anti-Semitic laws. Can we have a look at the next picture?

This is why the CIA didn't want anything known because Globke was the chief minister to Adenauer in the West German government and they were terrified what would come out at the trial. So there you have Globke. Well, as you know, the Israelis did put him on trial and it becomes, if you like, the great trial that, as I said right at the beginning, that brought the Holocaust into real public attention and opened the floodgates. But as I said you right at the beginning, the more I study it, the less I understand. Because even the great Yehuda Bauer said, "The problem with trying to get to the depths of the Shoah, it's not about history, it's about the soul of man." So thank you very much.

- Hi Trudy, thank you very much for an extraordinary, extraordinary presentation and I'm looking forward to tomorrow night when you'll be-

- Yes, that should be very interesting.

- Thank you, yeah, that'll be, I mean, there's so much to take in.

- I know.

- I think we're going to have to have a summing up. I know we've got three different nights, but then I think we need to have a summing up.

- Maybe the following week if you've got a spare evening or spare time, maybe it's possible to Zoom the three of us in to have a conversation. I don't if that's possible.

- Well, thank you very, very much. That was another extraordinary presentation.

- Bless you Wendy, and lots of love.

- Thank you.

- Be well, God bless.