

# HOLOCAUST DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE

APRIL 27–MAY 4, 2008



*The violence shocked the world...*

Local residents view the burning of the ceremonial hall at the Jewish cemetery in Graz, German-incorporated Austria, 1938.  
*Bild- und Tonarchiv/LMJ Graz*

## Do Not Stand Silent: Remembering *Kristallnacht* 1938

Seventy years ago, on November 9–10, 1938, the Nazis staged vicious pogroms—state sanctioned, anti-Jewish riots—against the Jewish community of Germany. These came to be known as *Kristallnacht* (now commonly translated as “Night of Broken Glass”), a reference to the untold numbers of broken windows of synagogues, Jewish-owned stores, community centers, and homes plundered and destroyed during the pogroms. In two days, more than 1,000 synagogues were burned, 7,000 Jewish businesses were vandalized and looted, dozens of Jewish people were killed, and many Jewish cemeteries, hospitals, schools, and homes were damaged as police and fire brigades stood aside. *Kristallnacht* was a turning point in history. The pogroms marked an intensification of Nazi anti-Jewish policy that would culminate in the Holocaust—the systematic, state-sponsored murder of Jews.

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THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS ESTABLISHED THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE AS THE NATION'S ANNUAL COMMEMORATION OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST AND CREATED THE UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM AS A PERMANENT LIVING MEMORIAL TO THOSE VICTIMS.

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