

## Luxembourg

Small country in Western Europe bordered by Belgium, France, and Germany. On the eve of World War II, 3,500 Jews lived in Luxembourg, 30 percent of whom were refugees who had arrived since the Nazi rise to power in 1933.

The Germans invaded Luxembourg in May 1940, and immediately set up a military administration. In August 1940 a civil government was established under the leadership of a Luxembourg Nazi. A month later, the administration put the racial Nuremberg Laws into effect and began Aryanization---the confiscation of Jewish property. In September 1941 the Jews of Luxembourg were ordered to wear the Jewish badge (see also Badge, Jewish), and many were placed in a ghetto-like camp which soon became the assembly point for deportations to the east.

By October 1941, 750 Jews had left Luxembourg, and most of those who remained were 50 or older. That month, the deportations began: on October 16, 324 Jews were sent to Lodz. In all, 674 Jews were deported in eight transports---the last of which left in September 1943---and only 36 survived. Many had been sent directly to Extermination Camps. Of the 3,500 Jews in Luxembourg before the war, 1,945 perished. Luxembourg was liberated by the Allies on September 9, 1944.