

The **Holocaust**



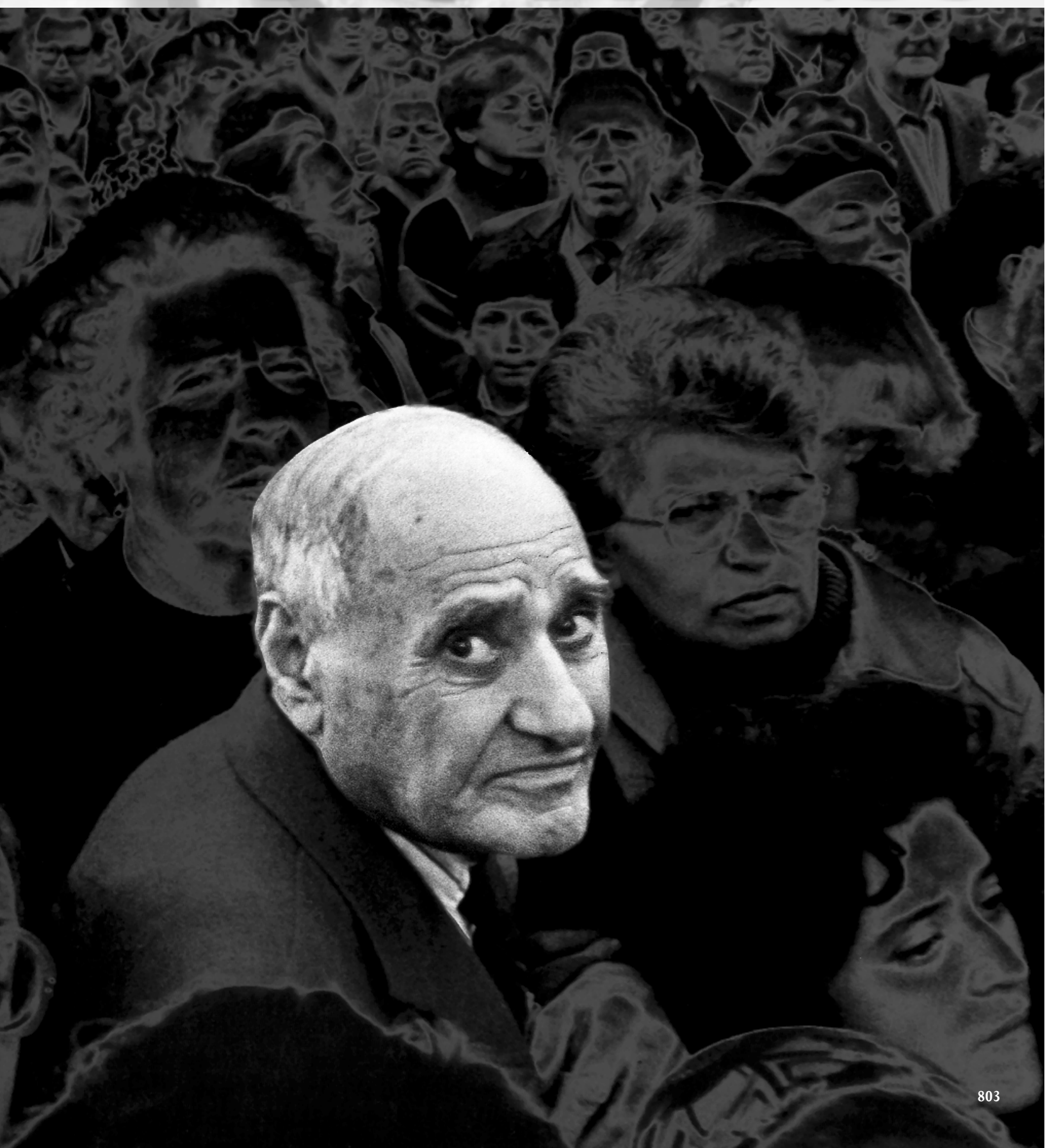
This memorial
was dedicated in
1994 in Kiev,
Ukraine, in memory
of the more than
33,000 Jews who were
killed at Babi Yar.

The Holocaust



A sea of faces at the dedication of the memorial at Babi Yar, a ravine in Kiev where Sonderkommando 4a of Einsatzgruppe C carried out the mass slaughter of more than 33,000 Jews from Kiev and surrounding towns on September 29–30, 1941. The killings at Babi Yar continued in subsequent months (victims included Jews, Communists and POWs), for an estimated total of 100,000 people.

The Holocaust



803

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810 ►
 Kamen Kashirskiy, Ukraine, 1994
 Holocaust memorial erected in 1992
 in the center of town at the former
 ghetto site on Kovel Street where
 “3,000 citizens of Jewish nationality
 were driven and who became the
 victims of the German Fascist
 aggressors. Eternal Memory to them!”

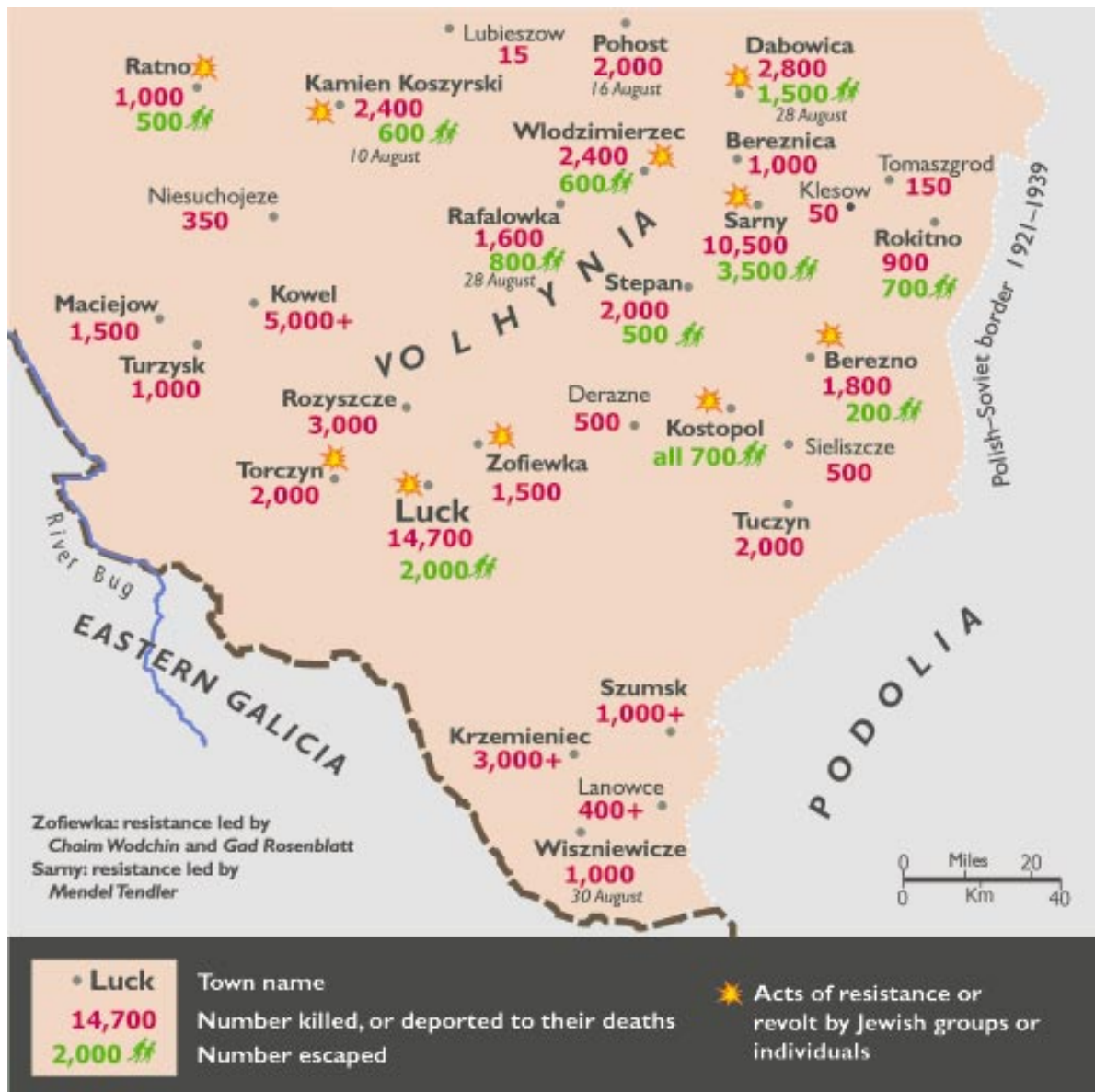


◀ 811
 Kamen Kashirskiy, Ukraine, 1994
 Holocaust memorial erected in 1960 on the
 site of the Jewish cemetery “where German
 Fascist aggressors and their accomplices shot
 2,600 citizens of Jewish nationality. To their
 eternal memory.”

812 ►
 Kamen Kashirskiy, Ukraine, 1994
 Holocaust memorial erected in 1991 in
 memory of the “100 citizens of Jewish
 nationality who were shot by German
 Fascist aggressors at this place”



The Holocaust



Massacre, Resistance and Escape in Volhynia, August 1942

Map 7

VOLHYNIA

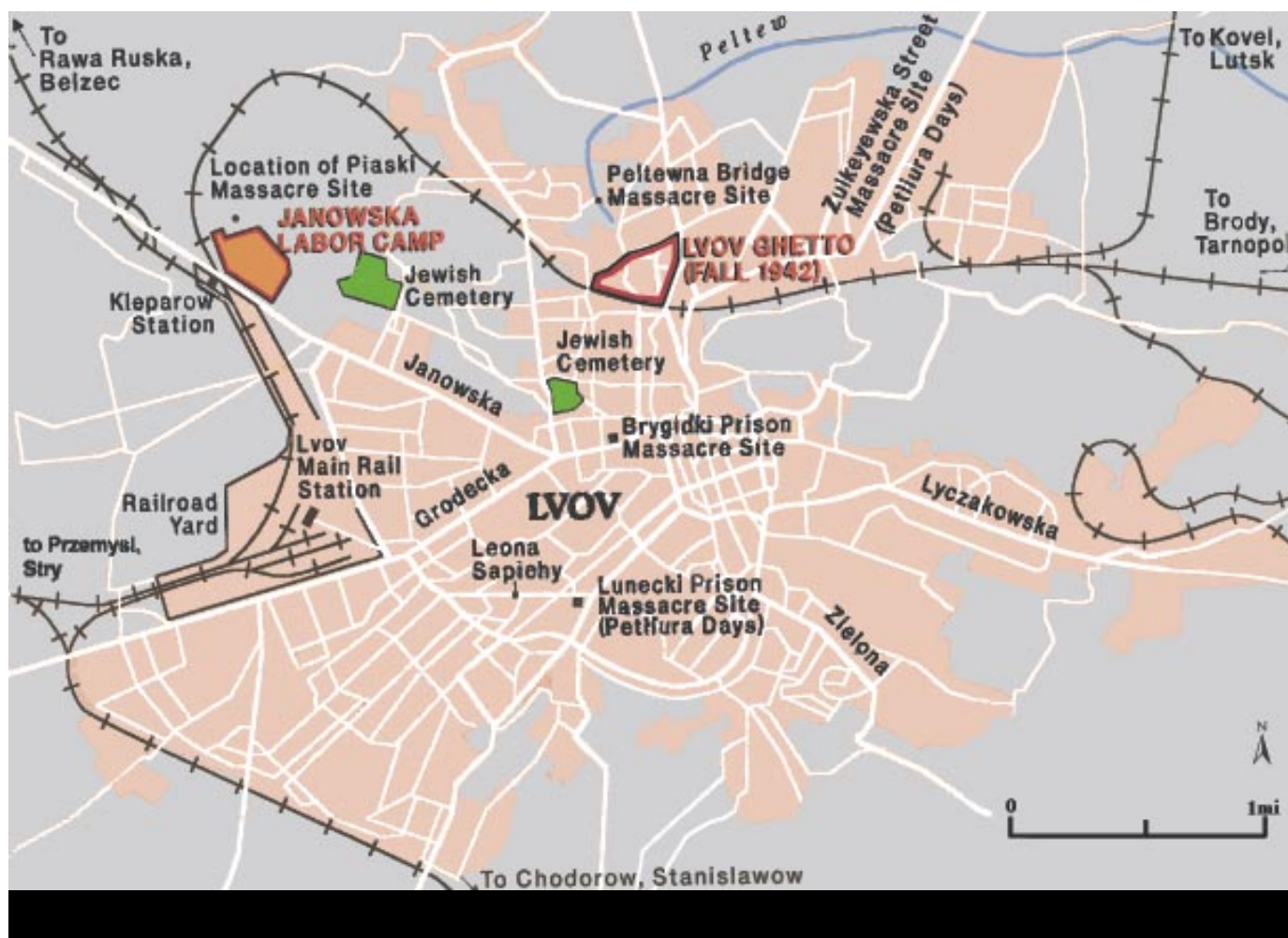
In Volhynia, more than 87,000 Jews were murdered in August 1942. As German units came to kill them, as many as 15,000 managed to escape. But fewer than 1,000 of the escapees, who included men, women and children, were able to survive nearly two years of intense hunger, severe winter cold, sickness and repeated German and Ukrainian attacks. Some of the men later joined the small Soviet partisan units that were later parachuted into Volhynia.

Between May and December 1942, more than 140,000 Volhynia Jews were murdered. Some, who

had been given refuge in Polish homes, were murdered along with their Polish protectors in the spring of 1943, when, of 300,000 Poles living in Volhynia, 40,000 were killed by Ukrainian "bandits." In many villages, Poles and Jews fought together against the common foe.

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The Holocaust



Lvov Environs, 1941–1942

Map 8

LVOV

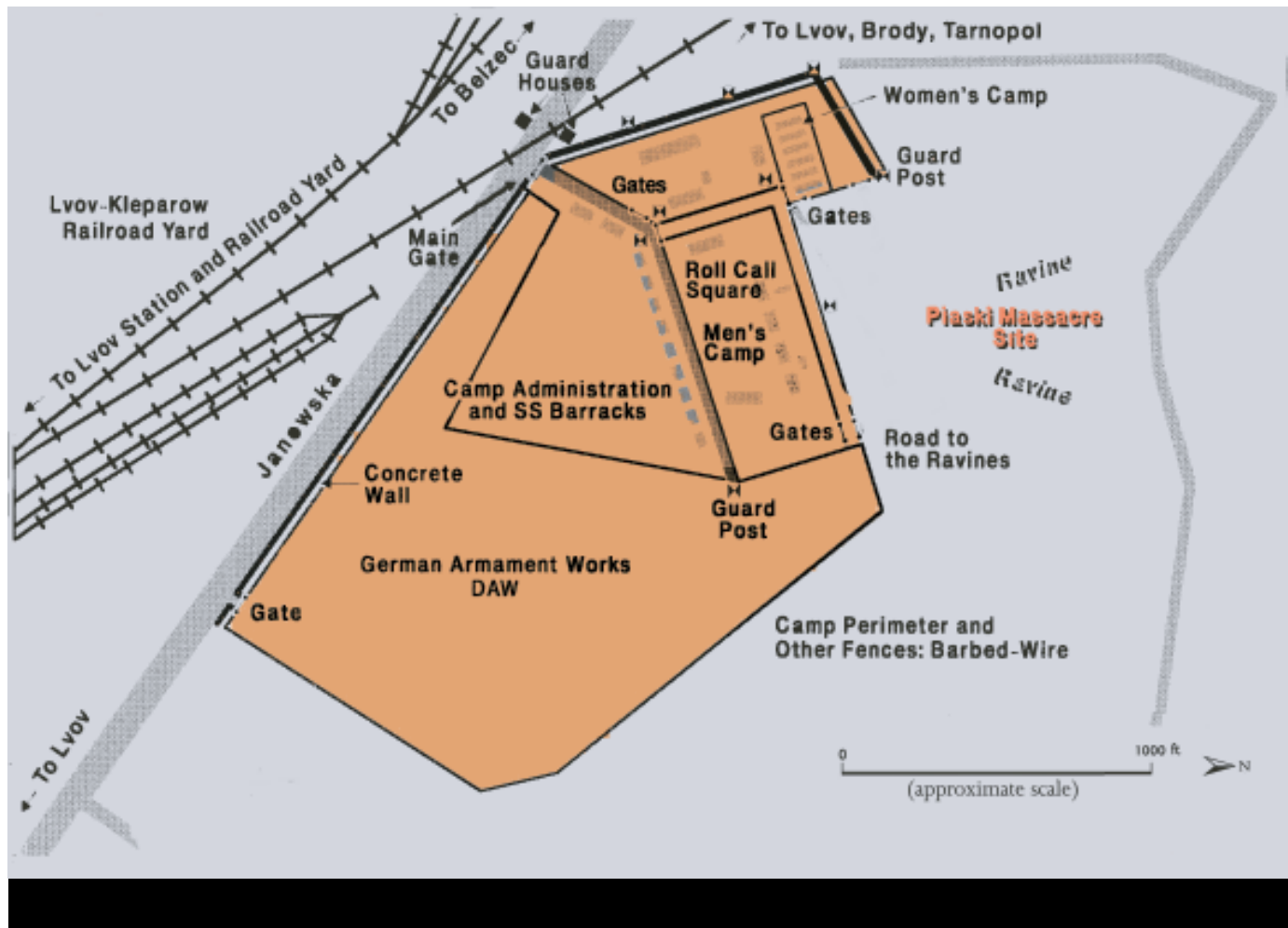
The city of Lvov in southeastern Poland was occupied by the Soviet Union in 1939, under the terms of the German–Soviet Pact. Lvov was subsequently occupied by Germany after the invasion of the Soviet Union in June 1941.

Encouraged by German forces, Ukrainian Nationalists staged a violent pogrom against the Jews in early July 1941, killing about 4,000 Jews. Another pogrom, known as the Petliura Days, was organized in late July. This pogrom was named for Simon Petliura, who had organized anti-Jewish pogroms in the Ukraine after World War I. For three days, Ukrainian militants went on a rampage through the Jewish districts of Lvov. They took groups of Jews to the Jewish cemetery and to Lunecki Prison and shot them. More than 2,000 Jews were killed and thousands more were injured.

In early November 1941, the Germans established a ghetto in the northern sector of Lvov. Thousands of elderly and sick Jews were killed as they crossed the bridge on Peltewna Street

on their way to the ghetto. In March 1942, the Germans began deporting Jews from the ghetto to the Belzec killing center. By August 1942, more than 65,000 Jews had been deported from the Lvov Ghetto and killed. Thousands more were sent for forced labor to the nearby Janowska camp. The ghetto was finally destroyed in early June 1943. The remaining ghetto residents were sent to the Janowska labor camp or deported to Belzec. Thousands of Jews were killed in the ghetto during this liquidation.

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Janowska Labor Camp in Lvov, Fall 1942 (for location of camp, see Map 8, facing page)

Map 9

JANOWSKA CAMP

In September 1941, the Germans set up a factory in the northeastern suburbs of Lvov, on Janowska Street. It became part of a network of factories owned and operated by the SS called the German Armament Works (Deutsche Ausrüstungswerke; DAW). Jews were used as forced laborers, primarily in carpentry and metalwork. The Germans established a camp housing them adjacent to the factory in October 1941.

In addition to being a forced-labor camp for Jews, Janowska was a transit camp during the mass deportations of Polish Jews to the killing centers in 1942. Jews underwent a selection process in Janowska similar to that used at Auschwitz-Birkenau and Majdanek. Those classified as fit to work remained at Janowska for forced labor. The majority, rejected as unfit for work, were deported to Belzec and killed or were shot at the Piaski ravine, just north of the camp. In the summer and fall of 1942, thousands of Jews (mainly from the Lvov Ghetto) were deported to Janowska and killed.

The evacuation of the Janowska camp began in November 1943. Prisoners were forced to open the mass graves and burn the bodies, as the Germans attempted to destroy the traces of mass murder (Aktion 1005). On November 19, 1943, these prisoners staged an uprising and a mass escape attempt. A few succeeded in escaping, but most were recaptured and killed.

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◀ 813
Skvira, Ukraine, 1993
Holocaust monument in memory of the
Jews who died there in 1941

814 ▶
Voznesensk, Ukraine, 1993
Holocaust monument in memory
of "more than 20,000 Jews (old
people, women and children) who
were victims of Nazi genocide. We
remember you!"



◀ 815
Voznesensk, Ukraine, 1993
Holocaust monument in memory of
20,000 Jews who died at this site



The Holocaust



Einsatzgruppen Massacres (Mobile Killing Units) in Eastern Europe, June 1941–November 1942 Map 10

EINSATZGRUPPEN

Einsatzgruppen (mobile killing units) were German special duty squads, composed primarily of SS and police personnel, assigned to kill Jews as part of the Nazi program to murder the Jews of Europe. The *Einsatzgruppen* also killed Roma (Gypsies), Soviet political commissars, and others whom the Nazis deemed racially or politically unacceptable. *Einsatzgruppen* operated behind the front lines in German-occupied territories in Eastern Europe. During the invasion of the Soviet Union in June 1941, the *Einsatzgruppen* followed the German army as it advanced deep into Soviet territory, and carried out mass-murder operations. The German army was responsible for logistical support for the *Einsatzgruppen*, providing supplies, transportation and housing. At first the *Einsatzgruppen* shot primarily Jewish men. Soon, wherever the *Einsatzgruppen* went they shot all Jewish men, women and children, without regard for age or gender.

The *Einsatzgruppen* following the German army into the Soviet Union were composed of four battalion-sized operational groups. *Einsatzgruppe A* fanned out from East Prussia across Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia toward Leningrad. It massacred

Jews in Kovno, Riga and Vilna. *Einsatzgruppe B* started from Warsaw in occupied Poland, and fanned out across Belorussia toward Smolensk. It massacred Jews in Grodno, Minsk, Brest-Litovsk, Slonim, Gomel and Mogilev, among other places. *Einsatzgruppe C* began operations from the western General-gouvernement and fanned out across the Ukraine toward Kharkov and Rostov-on-Don. It committed massacres in Lvov, Tarnopol, Zolochov, Kremenets, Kharkov, Kiev and elsewhere. Of the four units, *Einsatzgruppe D* operated farthest south. It carried out massacres in southern Ukraine and the Crimea, especially in Nikolayev, Kherson, Simferopol, Sevastopol and Feodosiya.

By the spring of 1943, the *Einsatzgruppen* had killed more than a million Jews and tens of thousands of Soviet political commissars, partisans and Roma.

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▲ 816 Bratslav, Ukraine, 1992
Holocaust memorial in memory of the Jewish victims of nazism, 1941–1944



▲ 817 Gorokhov, Ukraine, 1993
“At this place, the German Fascist aggressors shot approximately 2,000 peaceful inhabitants of Jewish nationality.”



▲ 818 Gorokhov, Ukraine, 1993
Holocaust monument: “On this place in September 1942, the German Fascist aggressors shot more than 3,000 Jewish inhabitants of the town of Gorokhov and surrounding villages.”



◀ 819
 Stavische, Ukraine, 1993
 Holocaust memorial including brown marble tablets engraved in Hebrew and Russian: "Do not forget. Here are the remains of 1,500 children who never had a chance to grow up." An illustration of an elderly Jew wrapped in a tallis is etched into the marble.

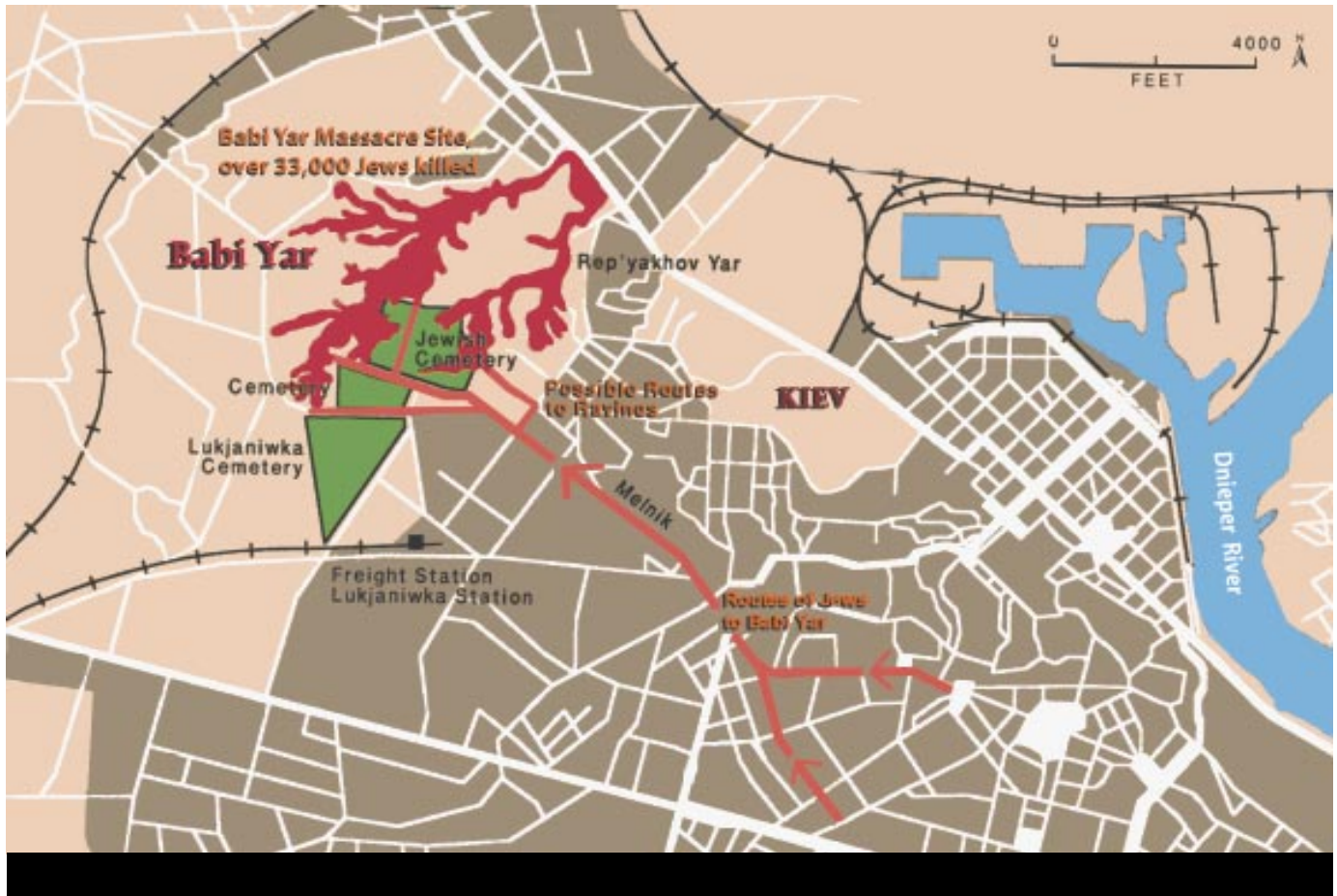


820 ▶
 Vladimirets, Ukraine, 1997
 Holocaust memorial in memory of the 3,000 Jews who died in this forest in 1942

821 ►
President William J. Clinton with
Rabbi Yakov Bleich at the second
Babi Yar memorial in Kiev, 1995



◀ 822
The first Babi Yar monument in
Kiev, located a few miles from the
actual site of the Babi Yar ravine,
1991



The Babi Yar Massacre in Kiev, September 29–30, 1941

Map 11

BABI YAR

One of the largest massacres perpetrated by members of the *Einsatzgruppen* took place just outside the Ukrainian capital city of Kiev. Tens of thousands of Jews were systematically massacred at Babi Yar, a ravine to the northwest of the city.

German forces entered Kiev in September 1941. During the first days of the occupation, several buildings used by the German army were blown up, apparently by the Soviet security police (the NKVD). The Germans blamed the Jews for the explosion and, ostensibly in retaliation, decided to kill the Jews of Kiev. At that time, there were about 60,000 Jews in the city. Detachments of the *Einsatzgruppen*, together with Ukrainian auxiliary units, were assigned to carry out the massacre.

In late September, the Germans posted notices requiring all Jews to report for resettlement outside the city of Kiev. Failure to report was made a capital offense. Masses of Jews reported and were directed to proceed along Melnik Street toward the Jewish cemetery and Babi Yar. Under guard, the Jews were directed to hand over all their valuables and to disrobe. As the victims moved into the ravine, they were shot

in small groups by *Einsatzgruppen* detachments. The massacre continued for two days. It is estimated that over 33,000 Jews were killed in this operation. In the months that followed the massacre, thousands more Jews were shot at Babi Yar. Many non-Jews, including Roma (Gypsies) and Soviet prisoners of war, were also killed at Babi Yar.

In July 1943, as Soviet forces appeared likely to recapture Kiev, the Germans attempted to destroy any trace of the crimes committed at Babi Yar. As part of *Aktion 1005*, which aimed to obliterate the evidence of mass murder all over Europe, the Germans forced prisoners to reopen the mass graves and cremate the bodies. Once this was done, the Germans killed the remaining prisoners. The Soviet army liberated Kiev in November 1943.

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■ Holocaust memorial in Pyatidni, Ukraine (near the Polish border), 1995

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Current Borders of Moldova Map 12

Transnistria is a small strip of land with the Dniester River as its western border (see Map 14). The area shown in Map 14 was part of the larger area shown on Map 13. Between 1941 and 1944, this region was under Romanian administration. It was bordered on the west by the Dniester River, on the north by a line beyond Mogilev Podolskiy, on the east by the Bug River, and on the south by the Black Sea (see Map 13). More than 150,000 Jews were deported to Transnistria from Bessarabia, Bukovina and Ukraine, and more than 120,000 of them perished.



Transnistria, 1941–1944 Map 13



Camps and Ghettos in Transnistria, 1941–1944

Map 14