**Document 1**

“**Sucker Bait” 1943 War Department Training film**

**Document 2**

**At a press conference on June 5, 1940, President Roosevelt stated:**

“Now, of course, the refugee has got to be checked because, unfortunately, among the refugees there are some spies, as has been found in other countries. And not all of them are voluntary spies—it is rather a horrible story but in some of the other countries that refugees out of Germany have gone to, especially Jewish refugees, they found a number of definitely proven spies.”

**Document 3**

**December 17, 1942**

**Joint Declaration of the “United Nations” (Allied governments)**

*Several weeks before this declaration, the US government was able to confirm that the Nazis had begun an effort to kill all Jews and had already killed hundreds of thousands. This was a statement made by the Allied governments, condemning the Nazi plan.*

"The attention of the Allied governments has been drawn to numerous reports from Europe that the German authorities, are now carrying into effect Hitler's oft-repeated intention to exterminate the Jewish people in Europe.

From all the occupied countries Jews are being transported in conditions of appalling horror and brutality to Eastern Europe. In Poland, which has been made the principal Nazi slaughterhouse, the ghettos established by the German invader are being systematically emptied of all Jews except a few highly skilled workers required for war industries. None of those taken away are ever heard of again. The able-bodied are slowly worked to death in labor camps. The infirm (sick) are left to die of exposure and starvation or are deliberately massacred in mass executions. The number of victims of these bloody cruelties is reckoned in many hundreds of thousands of entirely innocent men, women and children.

The above-mentioned governments condemn in the strongest possible terms this cold-blooded extermination. They reaffirm their solemn resolution to insure that those responsible for these crimes shall not escape retribution, and to press on with the necessary practical measures to this end."

**Document 4**

**14 August 1944**

**Assistant Secretary of War John McCloy to leader of World Jewish Congress.**

*Once Americans knew about the concentration camps, there was pressure on the US military from Jewish groups, who believed that they should bomb railway lines and concentration camps to prevent any further deaths. This is a response from the Assistant Secretary of War to a Jewish group.*

“After a study it became apparent that such an operation could be executed only by the diversion of considerable air support essential to the success of our forces now engaged in decisive operations elsewhere and would in any case be of doubtful efficacy that it would warrant the use of our resources. There has been considerable opinion to the effect that such an effort, even if practicable, might provoke even more vindictive action by the Germans.”

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: ­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**US Foreign Policy: Then and Now ­­­­**

**Notes:**

What were the Nazis doing?

Nazi strategy

What was the refugee policy in the US?

What did the US know?

**It’s 1943. What do you think the following people thought the US should be doing in regards to refugees? Write your predictions.**

**US government**

**European Jews**

**American Jews**

**US military**

**US citizens**

**Now, take a look at the “documents,” with your stakeholder group in mind. We will watch the first one together. Summarize each document.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Document** | **Summary** (What is the source saying?) |
| #1 “Sucker Bait” | What opinions or fears are expressed? |
| #2 FDR press conference | What opinions or fears are expressed? |
| #3 Declaration of Allies | What specifically do the Allies know about Germany’s actions?  What is their plan to deal with Germany? |
| #4 War Secretary response | What reasons does McCloy give for rejecting the plan? |

As your stakeholder group, you want to make sure that the US is serving your interests and paying attention to you. The US government is holding an open conference for interested parties to make suggestions about how to handle the refugees resulting from Nazi actions in Europe. It is your job to make sure everyone hears your voice and beyond that, to offer a solution. You have to take into account the fears of others around you, but you should give a reason that your plan will be successful.

You are drafting a statement of opinion and a policy proposal. First, you will give your opinion. How does your group feel about the current Jewish crisis? Next, you will propose a policy. *In your policy, consider the following questions:*

1. Should the US accept more refugees? If so, how many? If not, what will happen to them?

2. Where will the refugees be housed? How will they be taken care of?

3. Should the US pursue direct action against concentration camps in Europe? If so, what? If not, why?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Stakeholder Group** | **What is their main concern?**  **Does their plan agree with yours? If so, how?** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |