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# WHAT THE LAST NUREMBERG PROSECUTOR ALIVE WANTS THE WORLD TO KNOW

*At 97, Ben Ferencz is the last Nuremberg prosecutor alive and he has a far-reaching message for today's world*

2017

CORRESPONDENT

**MAY 07 LESLEY STAHL**

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- Twenty-two SS officers responsible for the deaths of 1M+ people would never have been brought to justice were it not for Ben Ferencz.
- The officers were part of units called Einsatzgruppen, or action groups. Their job was to follow the German army as it invaded the Soviet Union in 1941 and kill Communists, Gypsies and Jews.
- Ferencz believes "war makes murderers out of otherwise decent people" and has spent his life working to deter war and war crimes.



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Ben Ferencz / CBS NEWS

It is not often you get the chance to meet a man who holds a place in history like Ben Ferencz. He's 97 years old, barely 5 feet tall, and he served as prosecutor of what's been called the biggest murder trial ever. The courtroom was Nuremberg; the crime, genocide; the defendants, a group of German SS officers accused of committing the largest number of Nazi killings outside the concentration camps -- more than a million men, women, and children shot down in their own towns and villages in cold blood.

Ferencz is the last Nuremberg prosecutor alive today. But he isn't content just to be part of 20th century history -- he believes he has something important to offer the world right now.

***"IF IT'S NAIVE TO WANT PEACE INSTEAD OF WAR, LET 'EM MAKE SURE THEY SAY I'M NAIVE. BECAUSE I WANT PEACE INSTEAD OF WAR."***

Lesley Stahl: You know, you-- have seen the ugliest side of humanity.

Benjamin Ferencz: Yes.

Lesley Stahl: You've really seen evil. And look at you. You're the sunniest man I've ever met. The most optimistic.



27-year-old Ben Ferencz became the chief prosecutor of 22 Einsatzgruppen commanders at Nuremberg.



Norman See-oh  
Archive

Benjamin Ferencz: You oughta get some more friends.

Watching Ben Ferencz during his daily swim, his gym workout and his morning push-up regimen is to realize he isn't just the sunniest man we've ever met -- he may also be the *fittest*. And that's just the beginning.

This is Ferencz making his opening statement in the Nuremberg courtroom 70 years ago.

*Ben Ferencz in court: The charges we have brought accuse the defendants of having committed crimes against humanity.*

The Nuremberg trials after World War II were historic -- the first international war crimes tribunals ever held. Hitler's top lieutenants were prosecuted first. Then a series of subsequent trials were mounted against other Nazi leaders, including 22 SS officers responsible for killing more than a million people -- not in concentration camps -- but in towns and villages across Eastern Europe. They would never have been brought to justice were it not for Ben Ferencz.

Lesley Stahl: You look so young.

Benjamin Ferencz: I was so young. I was 27 years old.

Lesley Stahl: Had you prosecuted trials before?

Benjamin Ferencz: Never in my life. I don't—

Lesley Stahl: Come on.

Benjamin Ferencz: --recall if I'd ever been in a courtroom actually.

Ferencz had immigrated to the U.S. as a baby, the son of poor Jewish parents from a small town in Romania. He grew up in a tough New York City neighborhood where his father found work as a janitor.



Ben Ferencz, 1946.

Benjamin Ferencz: When I was taken to school at the age of seven, I couldn't speak English-- spoke Yiddish at home. And I was very small. And so they wouldn't let me in.

Lesley Stahl: So you didn't speak English 'til you were eight?

Benjamin Ferencz: That's correct.

Lesley Stahl: Could you read?

Benjamin Ferencz: No, on the contrary. The silent movies always had writing on it. And I would ask my father, "Wazukas," in Yiddish, "What does it say? What does it say?" He couldn't read it, either.

But Ferencz learned quickly. He became the first in his family to go to college, then got a scholarship to Harvard Law School. But during his first semester, the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, and he, like many classmates, raced to enlist. He wanted to be a pilot, but the Army Air Corps wouldn't take him.

Benjamin Ferencz: They said, "No, you're too short. Your legs won't reach the pedals." The Marines, they just looked at me and said, "Forget it, kid."

So he finished at Harvard then enlisted as a private in the Army. Part of an artillery battalion, he landed on the beach at Normandy and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. Toward the end of the war, because of his legal training, he was transferred to a brand new unit in General Patton's Third Army, created to investigate war crimes. As U.S. forces liberated concentration camps, his job was to rush in and gather evidence. Ferencz told us he is still haunted by the things he saw. And the stories he heard in those camps.

Benjamin Ferencz: A father who, his son told me the story. The father had died just as we were entering the camp. And the father had routinely saved a piece of his bread for his son, and he kept it under his arm at... He kept it under his arm at night so the other inmates wouldn't steal it, you know. So you see these human stories which are not -- they're not real. They're not real. But they were real.

Ferencz came home, married his childhood sweetheart and vowed never to set foot in Germany again. But that didn't last long. General Telford Taylor, in charge of the Nuremberg trials, asked him to direct a team of researchers in Berlin, one of whom found a cache of top-secret documents in the ruins of the German foreign ministry.

Benjamin Ferencz: He gave me a bunch of binders, four binders. And these were daily reports from the Eastern Front-- which unit entered which town, how many people they killed. It was classified, so many Jews, so many gypsies, so many others--

Ferencz had stumbled upon reports sent back to headquarters by secret SS units called Einsatzgruppen, or action groups. Their job had been to follow the German army as it invaded the Soviet Union in 1941, and kill Communists, Gypsies and especially Jews.



Screenshot from film showing the Einsatzgruppen at work.

Benjamin Ferencz: They were 3,000 SS officers trained for the purpose, and directed to kill without pity or remorse, every single Jewish man, woman, and child they could lay their hands on.

Lesley Stahl: So they went right in after the troops?

Benjamin Ferencz: That was their assignment, come in behind the troop, round up the Jews, kill 'em all.

Only one piece of film is known to exist of the Einsatzgruppen at work. It isn't easy viewing...

Benjamin Ferencz: Well, this is typical operation. Well, see here, this-- they rounded 'em up. They all have already tags on 'em. And they're chasing them.

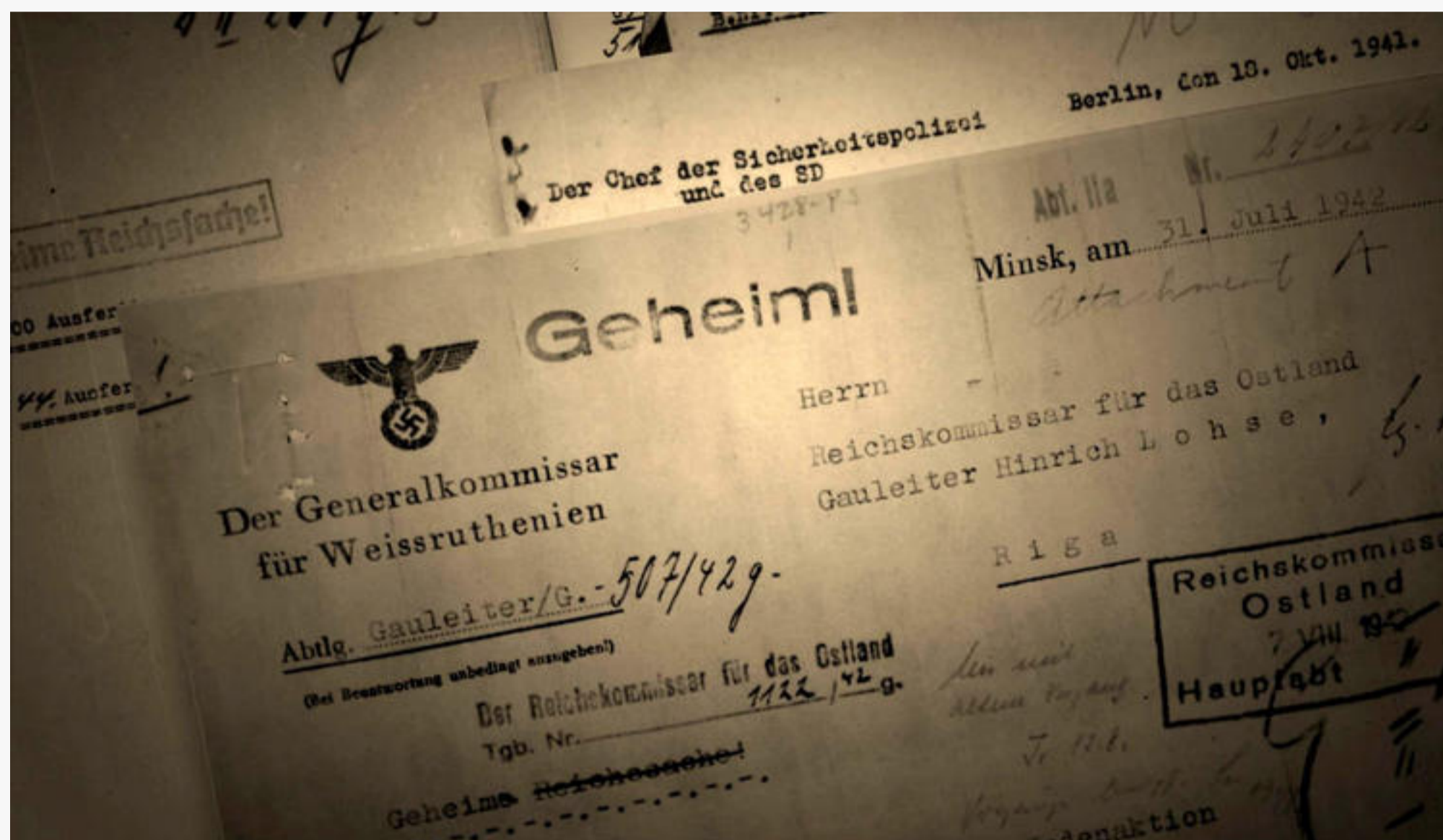
Lesley Stahl: They're making them run to their own death?

Benjamin Ferencz: Yes. Yes. There's the rabbi coming along there. Just put 'em in the ditch. Shoot 'em there. You know, kick 'em in.

Lesley Stahl: Oh, my God. Oh, my God.

This footage came to light years later. At the time, Ferencz just had the documents, and he started adding up the numbers.

Benjamin Ferencz: When I reached over a million people murdered that way, over a million people, that's more people than you've ever seen in your life, I took a sample. I got on the next plane, flew from Berlin down to Nuremberg, and I said to Taylor, "General, we've gotta put on a new trial."



Ben Ferencz entered into evidence the defendants' own reports of what they'd done.

But the trials were already underway, and prosecution staff was stretched thin. Taylor told Ferencz adding another trial was impossible.

Benjamin Ferencz: And I start screaming. I said, "Look. I've got here mass murder, mass murder on an unparalleled scale." And he said, "Can you do this in addition to your other work?" And I said, "Sure." He said, "OK. So you do it."

And that's how 27-year-old Ben Ferencz became the chief prosecutor of 22 Einsatzgruppen commanders at trial number 9 at Nuremberg.

Judge: How do you plead to this indictment, guilty or not guilty?

Defendant: Nicht schuldig.

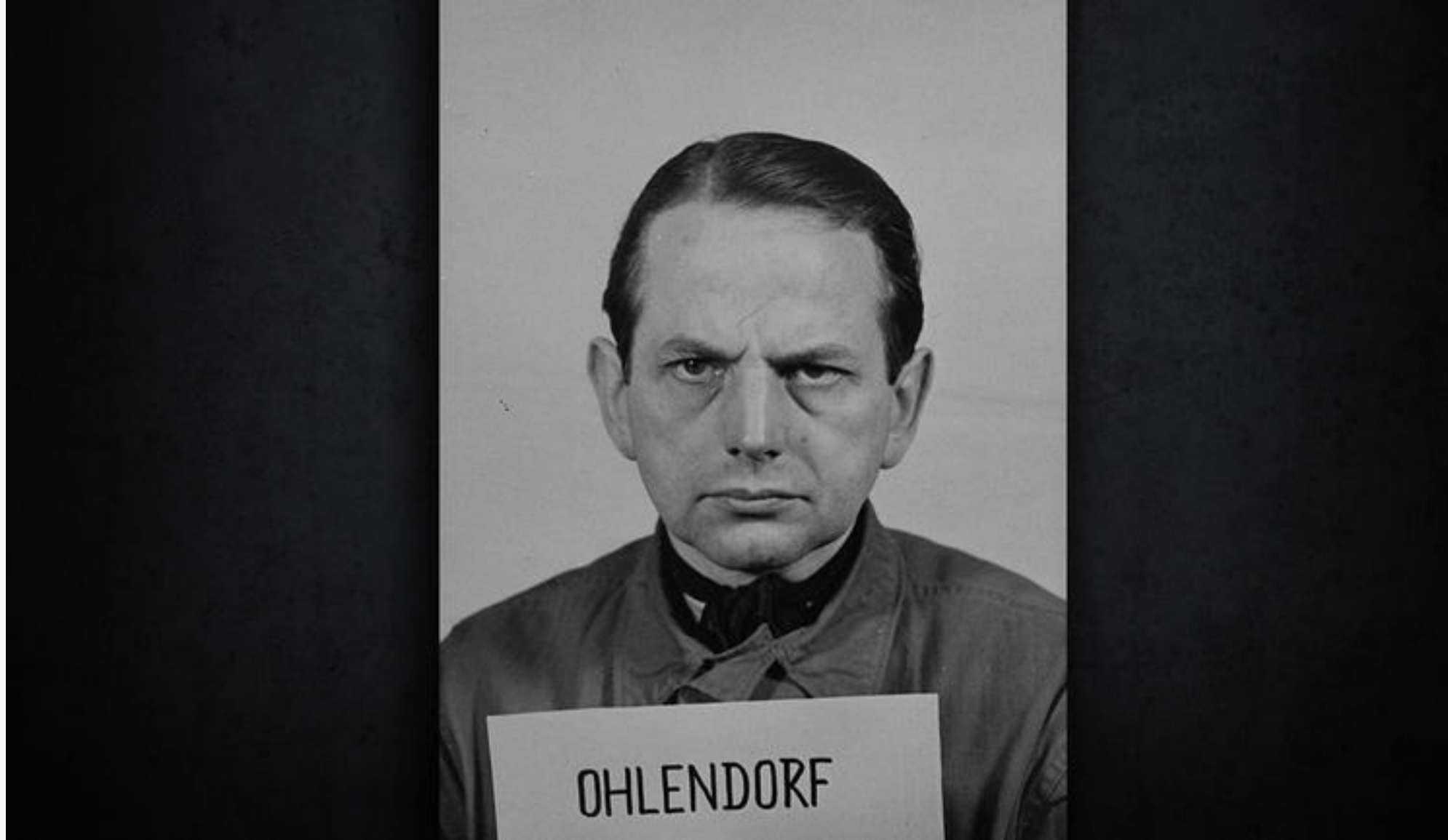
Benjamin Ferencz: Standard routine, nicht schuldig. Not guilty.

Judge: Guilty or not guilty?

Defendant: Nicht schuldig.

Lesley Stahl: They all say not guilty.

Benjamin Ferencz: Same thing, not guilty.



Otto Ohlendorf

But Ferencz knew they were guilty and could prove it. Without calling a single witness, he entered into evidence the defendants' own reports of what they'd done. Exhibit 111: "In the last 10 weeks, we have liquidated around 55,000 Jews." Exhibit 179, from Kiev in 1941: "The city's Jews were ordered to present themselves... about 34,000 reported, including women and children. After they had been made to give up their clothing and valuables, all of them were killed, which took several days." Exhibit 84, from Einsatzgruppen D in March of 1942: Total number executed so far: 91,678. Einsatzgruppen D was the unit of Ferencz's lead defendant Otto Ohlendorf. He didn't deny the killings -- he had the gall to claim they were done in self-defense.

Benjamin Ferencz: He was not ashamed of that. He was proud of that. He was carrying out his government's instructions.

Lesley Stahl: How did you not hit him?

Benjamin Ferencz: There was only one time I wanted to-- really. One of these-- my defendants said-- He gets up, and he says, "[GERMAN]," which is, "What? The Jews were shot? I hear it here for the first time." Boy, I felt if I'd had a bayonet I woulda jumped over the thing, and put a bayonet right through one ear, and let it come out the other. You know? You know?

Lesley Stahl: Yeah.

Benjamin Ferencz: That son of a bitch.

Lesley Stahl: And you had his name down on a piece of—

Benjamin Ferencz: And I've got-- I've got his reports of how many he killed. You know? Innocent lamb.

Lesley Stahl: Did you look at the defendants' faces?



60 Minutes correspondent Lesley Stahl and Nuremberg prosecutor Ben Ferencz / CBS NEWS

Benjamin Ferencz: Defendants' face were blank, all the time. Defendants-- absolutely blank. They could-- like, they're waiting for a bus.

Lesley Stahl: What was going on inside of you?

Benjamin Ferencz: Of me?

Lesley Stahl: Yeah.

Benjamin Ferencz: I'm still churning.

Lesley Stahl: To this minute?

Benjamin Ferencz: I'm still churning.

All 22 defendants were found guilty, and four of them, including Ohlendorf, were hanged. Ferencz says his goal from the beginning was to affirm the rule of law and deter similar crimes from ever being committed again.

Lesley Stahl: Did you meet a lot of people who perpetrated war crimes who would otherwise in your opinion have been just a normal, upstanding citizen?

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***"WAR MAKES MURDERERS OUT OF OTHERWISE DECENT PEOPLE. ALL WARS, AND ALL DECENT PEOPLE."***

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Benjamin Ferencz: Of course, is my answer. These men would never have been murderers had it not been for the war. These were people who could quote Goethe, who loved Wagner, who were polite--

Lesley Stahl: What turns a man into a savage beast like that?

Benjamin Ferencz: He's not a savage. He's an intelligent, patriotic human being.

Lesley Stahl: He's a savage when he does the murder though.

Benjamin Ferencz: No. He's a patriotic human being acting in the interest of his country, in his mind.

Lesley Stahl: You don't think they turn into savages even for the act?

Benjamin Ferencz: Do you think the man who dropped the nuclear bomb on Hiroshima was a savage? Now I will tell you something very profound, which I have learned after many years. War makes murderers out of otherwise decent people. All wars, and all decent people.

So Ferencz has spent the rest of his life trying to deter war and war crimes by establishing an

international court – like Nuremburg. He scored a victory when the international criminal court in The Hague was created in 1998. He delivered the closing argument in the court's first case.

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***"IF THEY TELL ME THEY WANT WAR INSTEAD OF PEACE, I DON'T SAY THEY'RE NAIVE, I SAY THEY'RE STUPID."***

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Lesley Stahl: Now, you've been at this for 50 years, if not more. We've had genocide since then.

Benjamin Ferencz: Yes.

Lesley Stahl: In Cambodia—

Benjamin Ferencz: Going on right this minute, yes.

Lesley Stahl: Going on right this minute in Sudan.

Benjamin Ferencz: Yes.

Lesley Stahl: We've had Rwanda, we've had Bosnia. You're not getting very far.

Benjamin Ferencz: Well, don't say that. People get discouraged. They should remember, from me, it takes courage not to be discouraged.

Lesley Stahl: Did anybody ever say that you're naive?

Benjamin Ferencz: Of course. Some people say I'm crazy.

Lesley Stahl: Are you naive here?

Benjamin Ferencz: Well, if it's naive to want peace instead of war, let 'em make sure they say I'm naive. Because I want peace instead of war. If they tell me they want war instead of peace, I don't say they're naive, I say they're stupid. Stupid to an incredible degree to send young people out to kill other young people they don't even know, who never did anybody any harm, never harmed them. That is the current system. I am naive? That's insane.

Ferencz is legendary in the world of international law, and he's still at it. He never stops pushing his message and he's donating his life savings to a Genocide Prevention Initiative at the Holocaust Museum. He says he's grateful for the life he's lived in this country, and it's his turn to give back.

Lesley Stahl: You are such an idealist.

Benjamin Ferencz: I don't think I'm an idealist. I'm a realist. And I see the progress. The progress has been remarkable. Look at the emancipation of woman in my lifetime. You're sitting here as a female. Look what's happened to the same-sex marriages. To tell somebody a man can become a woman, a woman can become a man, and a man can marry a man, they would have said, "You're crazy." But it's a reality today. So the world is changing. And you shouldn't-- you know-- be despairing because it's never happened before. Nothing new ever happened before.

Lesley Stahl: Ben—

Benjamin Ferencz: We're on a roll.

Lesley Stahl: I can't—

Benjamin Ferencz: We're marching forward.

Lesley Stahl: Ben? I'm sitting here listening to you. And you're very wise. And you're full of energy and passion. And I can't believe you're 97 years old.

Benjamin Ferencz: Well, I'm still a young man.

Lesley Stahl: Clearly, clearly.



Benjamin Ferencz: And I'm still in there fighting. And you know what keeps me going? I know I'm right.

*Produced by Shari Finkelstein and Nieves Zuberbühler.*

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### Lesley Stahl

One of America's most recognized and experienced broadcast journalists, Lesley Stahl has been a 60 Minutes correspondent since 1991.

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JOHN LOCKE 1776 May 11, 2017 8:8PM

I THINK THE GERMAN PEOPLE HAD BEEN BRAINWASHED OVER THE 7-8 YEARS OF NAZI RULE TO MAKE THEM INTO PEOPLE WHO COULD COMMIT ATROCITIES AND THINK IT PATRIOTIC DUTY. HITLER AND HIS HENCHMEN KNEW HOW TO PLAY ON THE (NON-LETHAL) PREJUDICES AND HABITS OF THE PEOPLE AND MOLD THEM INTO MONSTERS. STEP BY STEP HE DEHUMANIZED THE JEWS AND PLAYED ON THE GERMAN PROPENSITY TO OBEY ORDERS. HE INSTILLED FEAR OF RESISTANCE, FEAR OF LOSING THE WAR, AND FEAR OF BETRAYING THEIR COMRADES. IT WAS A LONG SICK PROCESS BUT PRODUCED PEOPLE WHO COULD MURDER WITHOUT REGRET OR THE PANGS OF CONSCIENCE. THE FEARFUL THING WAS THAT GERMANY WAS ONE OF THE TWO OR THREE MOST ADVANCED NATIONS IN THE WORLD, TOPS IN SCIENCE, EDUCATION, MUSIC, ETC. SO BEWARE !

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## MOST DISCUSSED

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Hey, I have a question.

WHY does the Weisenthal Center give Soros a pass as a sonderkommander? Or does that only work for scary white guys wearing Hugo Boss designer clothing?

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ALEXKRISLOV May 11, 2017 8:8PM

**@Htos1** Why? Because he was never in a death-camp, let alone a sonderkommander. He was 13 years old, when the Nazis invaded his country, and a year later, while his family still hid under forged papers, the war was over. The real question is why some people, because they dislike Soros politics, think it's okay to spread such slimy lies about him.

👍 1 LIKE / ↩️ REPLY

OLIVIA BLACKMOORE May 11, 2017 0:12PM

Those trials and the "evidence" were as legitimate as a pro wrestling match.

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ALEXKRISLOV May 11, 2017 8:8PM

**@Olivia Blackmoore** On the contrary, the trials were well-run and thoroughly documented. It's fascinating to watch holocaust deniers endlessly attempt to erase history in this fashion.

👍 2 LIKE / ↩️ REPLY

DAVEYO747 May 12, 2017 8:8AM

**@AlexKrislov @Olivia Blackmoore** Those that were denying the killing at the trials were in fact telling the TRUTH.

They never killed ONE REAL HEBREW JEWISH PERSON!!!!!! The ones they killed were the Ashkenazi Kahazar Jews from the Black and Caspian Seas, because all the countries that surrounded Germany at that time REFUSED TO ACCEPT THE ASHKENAZI KAHAZAR JEWS AS REFUGEES. Even Israel denied their entry.

Read up a little in history seen from a different perspective when you look up at the archives of what Hitler was telling the world and thru his speeches and from all the written documents.

Rudolph Hess was not even involved in the war, yet this idiot Ferencz prosecuted him and gave him a life sentence.

Ferencz has a lot to tell the world the real TRUTH, otherwise he goes to his grave damned as he could be. In fact Ferencz is a jew from the Ashkenazi Kahazar Jews and his origins is from RUSSIA.

👍 LIKE / ↩️ REPLY

ALEXKRISLOV 18 hours ago

**@Daveyo747 @AlexKrislov @Olivia Blackmoore** THAT'S NATION OF ISLAM GARBAGE YOU'RE SPEWING, WHICH HAS NO FACTUAL BASIS. ASHKENAZY JEWS HAVE HAD THEIR MITOCHONDRIAL DNA TESTED--IT'S CLOSER TO THAT OF ARABS IN THE MIDDLE EAST THAN ANYTHING ELSE. AND THE NOTION THAT HESS COMMITTED NO CRIMES IS ASTONISHINGLY IGNORANT, BY THE WAY.

👍 LIKE / ↩️ REPLY

ALEXKRISLOV 18 hours ago

**@Daveyo747 @Olivia Blackmoore** Sorry about the all-caps. I did a cut and paste and the lower-case letters vanished.

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People, on the whole, live their lives according to what they are afraid of. They are afraid of hundreds of things, and this directs their behavior for the most part. Included in the long list of fears are the easiest to fear: fear of death, fear of aging, fear of starving, etc. Not often realized are the more subtle fears, that is, fears of not being accepted, fear of not being taken seriously, fear of uncertainty.

In the world people make everyday decisions often based on their fears. People often get married because they are afraid of being alone. They have children because you are supposed to have children, and they are afraid of what people would think of them if they didn't. They pursue careers they're not really interested in for fear of otherwise disappointing their parents and losing their parents' approval. They become policemen and firemen because they gain respect by doing so, and feel more protected by being part of a well-defined, armed group. Just a few examples.

The average German citizen in the 1930s had plenty to fear. The reparations they were being made to pay were badly hurting their country and themselves. Inflation was unbelievably high, and food was unbelievably scarce. When Hitler and his supporters told them these terrible conditions would go away by following their ideas, most German citizens thought this would be a way out of their troubles. And after Hitler secured power completely, they had their own lives to fear if they didn't comply. So most of them complied.

This is not to excuse their behavior, there is no excuse for their behavior. And that's because no excuse is needed, really. It is simply normal human behavior--to have fears, to take actions to relieve those fears. Few of us are brave enough to risk death when there is a safer alternative (this is why people have to be drafted to go to war). There are some very special people who can do this, thank heavens. What Ferencz was saying is that the best safest alternative is to not go to war in the first place, and that would be accomplished by not creating the conditions which lead to war.

Unfortunately, humans have not reached this stage yet. People are still, of course, afraid of starving, aging, and dying. But we are also still afraid of not having enough, which is why we have billionaires, which is why many people are starving. Eight people's combined wealth, 8 people, 8--have more money than 4 billion people who share the world with us. This is disgusting, and if billionaires had logical morals, they'd be ashamed of themselves, not proud. People are also still afraid of things that are different than them, like people of different skin colors, people who speak different languages, people who have different sexual preferences. And people still act on those fears--by being prejudiced and otherwise intolerant of others. And those retained fears are why we still create the conditions that sometimes end up being wars, complete with all the atrocities that are always present when war is waged.

Hopefully, one day people will conquer their fears, at least the fears that might be managed, the fears other than aging, starving, and dying.

👍 1 LIKE / ↩️ REPLY

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**NOMOREBUSHES** May 11, 2017 1:1PM

**@gilch** Boy are you delusional Zilch. So let's take all that money from those eight people and spread it evenly among those 4 billion you are so concerned about. How much would they have now? Twice as much you say? You do know that two times zero is still zero. They would get about forty dollars each. That's the funny thing about socialists and liberals. They have ZERO math skills.

👍 1 LIKE / ↩️ REPLY

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**ALEXKRISLOV** May 11, 2017 8:8PM

**@NoMoreBushes @gilch** Do you have any grasp of how much money 40 dollars is to huge masses of humanity? I would guess not.

👍 1 LIKE / ↩️ REPLY

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**DAVEYO747** May 12, 2017 8:8AM

**@NoMoreBushes @gilch** You do not understand what Gilch was talking about. 8 people today now control the ENTIRE WORLD, and they have TRILLIONS in their pocket. He is talking about the Ashkenazi Kahazar JEWS. Lets start with the Rothschilds, and the Bildenbergs to name you two groups.

The real Hebrews are very much alive and still waiting to return back to their

homeland which is their promised land. They never were exterminated by the Nazi's during WW II. Not one of them.

In fact Forencz is a Ashkenazi Kahazar Jew himself. he cannot deny it, and being a prosecutor and a Jew at the same time, really does raise up eyebrows especially against those who were wiping out his people from the Black and Caspian Seas.

The Trials of Nuremburg was a farce and all one sided. None of the Defendants had a chance to be found not guilty due to their association of what they represented.

👍 LIKE / ↩️ REPLY

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**ALEXKRISLOV** 18 hours ago

**@Daveyo747 @NoMoreBushes @gilch** What a crock. It's fairly easy to identify the richest people in the world. You think Bill Gates is Jewish? Good grief. The stuff you're spreading was originally from a Russian attack on anti-Czarists that later anti-semites turned into the fraud called "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion." It's not just long debunked--it's a CENTURY debunked. Rent a clue.

👍 LIKE / ↩️ REPLY

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**ALEXKRISLOV** 18 hours ago

**@Daveyo747 @NoMoreBushes @gilch** As to your repetition of the childish NOI pretense that Jews aren't Jews, THAT CLAIM, though long disproven, IS IRRELEVANT TO THIS NEWS STORY. You say none of your imaginary "real Jews" were killed? Fine. Then they've nothing to do with this story about a guy who prosecuted Nazi murderers. Duh.

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**FUTBOL-FAN** May 11, 2017 11:11AM

I found this one of the most moving and heart wrenching episodes to be presented on 60 minutes. Mr. Ferencz is in my opinion as much of a hero as any man who loss his life defending our nation and all causes of justice and freedom. We should all never forget what the Nazis did in the name of racial superiority. We all need to take to heart his words and realize that our nation is full of people who would justify the conduct of the Nazis and seem to feel that the crimes committed by not only the Nazis but by large segments of the German people.

We have people who today deny the Holocaust and seem to believe that people of different views or ethnic backgrounds should be exterminated. These individuals should be addressed and if they act on their views they should be charged with crimes against humanity.

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**MARCOSHB** May 11, 2017 0:12AM

This man is not a realist, sad to say. He, even at his age, with all his experience, is a wishful thinker and terribly naive. A "decent" human being cannot bear such barbarism, let alone be responsible for it. Whether or not these SS men and their collaborators would have murdered Jews in the absence of war is irrelevant in assessing their general pre-war character. The "men" who took part in these murder squads were not merely "patriots" of their country, as he suggests. They were men who generally relished and often enjoyed the opportunity to murder Jews, just as today's jihadists relish their own barbarity, while being "patriotic" to their own cause. Their prior lack of genuine or fundamental decency, in most cases, predisposes them to such ideologies and their attendant brutality.

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**IVAN MOISEIEV** May 11, 2017 1:1AM

**@Marcoshb**

I'd say he knows a thing or two about true barbarism. What you fail to see is that it's inside all of us. It is simply a stretched-out Milgram experiment: when it is conducted long enough, you start to get on with it. you can't be distressed forever.

Some of those officers might be sociopaths. But thinking that they were just "savages" is what Benjamin is warning against: Once you start to think that those people are "savages" - unlike you, a civilized man - you start feeling protected, you start feeling immune. You are not. Noone

is.

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**MARCOSHB** *May 11, 2017 2:2AM*

**@Ivan Moiseiev** I DO NOT DISAGREE WITH ALL OF WHAT YOU HAVE SAID, IVAN. THE POTENTIAL - THE CAPACITY - MIGHT BE INSIDE EVERYONE, BUT THE PREDISPOSITION OR PREDILECTION VARIES FROM PERSON TO PERSON. FURTHERMORE, I AM INTERPRETTING THE TERM "DECENT" NOT TO REFER TO ONE WHO MERELY CONFORMS TO A "NORMAL" BASIC SOCIETAL STANDARD OF PROPIETY IN RELATIVELY "GOOD TIMES", BUT RATHER TO SOMEONE WHO HAS A DEEPER FEELING FOR AND AN INNER COMMITMENT TO SUCH STANDARDS. MANY PEOPLE SIMPLY ABIDE, GENERALLY SPEAKING, BY THE "RULES" OF SOCIETY AND MIGHT BE TERMED "DECENT" IN THE MINIMAL SENSE, AS DISTINCT FROM CHARACTERIZING SOMEONE ELSE AS "TRULY A DECENT PERSON" - THE LATTER IS WHAT I WAS REFERRING TO EARLIER AS HAVING "GENUINE OR FUNDAMENTAL DECENCY". THE REAL QUESTION, THEN, IS WHAT THE AVERAGE PERSON IS LIKE. EVEN SO, LET'S RECOGNIZE AND ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE AVERAGE AMERICAN SOLDIER DID NOT BEHAVE WITH THE BARBARITY OF EVEN THE AVERAGE REGULAR ARMY GERMAN SOLDIER, LET ALONE THE GERMAN SS MEN AND THEIR COLLABORATORS. SINCE BOTH WERE IN WAR, IT IS NOT MERELY "WAR" WHICH "MAKES MURDERERS OUT OF OTHERWISE DECENT PEOPLE. ALL WARS, AND ALL DECENT PEOPLE", AS MR FERENCZ ASSERTS. IT SHOULD BE NOTED, OF COURSE, THAT "KILLING", WHICH WAR REQUIRES, IS NOT SYNONYMOUS WITH "MURDER". IT IS THE EMBRACE OF EVIL, ULTIMATELY, THAT MAKES MURDERERS OUT OF OTHERWISE SOMEWHAT "DECENT" - (IN THE LESSER SENSE OF THE TERM) - PEOPLE.

👍 1 LIKE / ↩️ REPLY

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**FUTBOL-FAN** *May 11, 2017 0:12PM*

**@Marcoshb** People seem to accept conduct which is often racist and bigoted as acceptable if they stand with an american flag and scream they are patriots. Racism and bigotry has no place in this nation. There was a civil war fought and won by the people of this nation to end DISCRIMINATION and slavery. Those who PRecessed in these views need to find another nation to reside in which will tolerate their hatred.

👍 1 LIKE / ↩️ REPLY

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**BEESLUG** *May 10, 2017 2:2PM*

I've read and seen what they have got on the mass killings but it is not enough - how did they dispose of the bodies? - cremation science tests the assumptions but cremation science was never made part of these show trials.

Many people commenting here have had their minds "blown" by the horrors of the war, and the media, like CBS, talks about it in some form every other day. The tales are repeated so much that people accept them.

👍 1 LIKE / ↩️ REPLY

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**DBINTHEBUSH** *May 10, 2017 8:8PM*

**@beeslug** "How did they dispose of the bodies?" Are you joking? If you have done any reading as you claim, you would know. You would know about the bodies - mass graves, cremations, burnings. Disposal was a big issue for the nazis and they put their devious minds to it with their ruthless efficiency. There are huge piles of bone material made up of crushed bones, agter incineration. The nazi regime became so concerned that they would be found out they had the starving wretched prisoners dig up bodies from mass graves for incineration, then crushing the remains. We have more evidence for all of this than we have for the battle of hastings or the Crusades. Or perhaps you don't think that these events happened either? We still have people living today who can tell us about it, quite apart from the thousands of testimonies, the films, photos and physical evidence. There were so many bodies in some of the camps when liberated that bulldozers were used to dig pits and push in the bodies. open your mind and your eyes.

👍 1 LIKE / ↩️ REPLY

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**ALEXKRISLOV** *May 11, 2017 2:2PM*

**@beeslug** No, you haven't done any research on this. HAd you done any, you'd know that there are mass graves aplenty, huge pits filled with ashes and more. The evidence is well established and overwhelming. But when you repeat the disproven lies of the deniers, you can't pretend to

be the one with an open mind.

👍 1 LIKE / ↩️ REPLY

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*May 11, 2017 10:10PM*

**@beeslug** It isn't just the emaciated and dying prisoners in the concentration camps nor just the killing chambers and human remains in the death camps that the allied forces found. They also found mounds and mounds of everything that was taken away from the prisoners after they arrived at the camps: suitcases, baskets, purses, shoes, clothing, dental fillings of silver & gold, teeth covered in silver and gold, wigs, the human hair removed from their heads, crutches, artificial limbs, and anything else they brought to the camps.

<http://www.scrapbookpages.com/AuschwitzScrapbook/Tour/Auschwitz1/Auschwitz1.html>

General Eisenhower liberated one of the concentration camps and had a film crew. Military photographers took pictures. Soldiers who were amateur photographers also took pictures. Artists drew the scenes they saw. Thousands of American and other allied soldiers witnessed the concentration & death camps. Those who deny what General Eisenhower and these other allied men saw, described and photographed, are impugning their character - the character of fathers, husbands, sons, and brothers who came back from the war. The holocaust isn't something made up after the war; it was documented during the war. The allied soldiers made the people who lived in the areas come to the camps so they could see the horror that they must have seen and been complicit to. They made them work at digging graves for the dead. There are films of this. They made sure these people were also witnesses to the Nazi's deeds.

The holocaust was not a story made up to benefit the Jews in some way, because it was not just Jews who were killed by the Nazis; they also exterminated, as if they were vermin, "gay people, priests, gypsies, people with mental or physical disabilities, communists, trade unionists, Jehovah's Witnesses, anarchists, Poles and other Slavic peoples, and resistance fighters." This was also extensively documented at the time.

[HTTP://WWW.HUFFINGTONPOST.COM/2015/01/27/HOLOCAUST-NON-JEWISH-VICTIMS\\_N\\_6555604.HTML](HTTP://WWW.HUFFINGTONPOST.COM/2015/01/27/HOLOCAUST-NON-JEWISH-VICTIMS_N_6555604.HTML)

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**DBINTHEBUSH** *May 10, 2017 5:5AM*

There is so much evidence about the mass murders, the gas chambers, the gas-fired crematoriums, the timber -fuelled burning of bodies, the bone crushing machines, the mass burials. All you have to do is look and read. There's also a huge amount of evidence - corroborated evidence - regarding the mass deportations from the occupied countries. Trains ran every day to the concentration camps. Then there's the films. The Imperial War Museum has films of the allied troops liberating camps with piles of naked corpses, barracks with thousands of dead piled up. Read "A train near Magdeburg" by Mathew Rozell. Read "The Testimony" by Helina Wagowska, a survivor of the Warsaw Ghetto, Auschwitz and Stutthof. She was nine years old when first taken by the Germans. She has a number tattooed on her arm. I have met her, heard her talk recently about the horrors she endured. She was forced to shovel bodies into the incinerator - she did this for six months. The Shoah Foundation has a cross-indexed record of the personal interviews of holocaust survivors. Names, places and events are cross-checked and corroborated. The evidence is overwhelming. Please don't mouth off if your knowledge is based on what you've read in one-line comments on the internet or from a conversation in the pub. Please find out what went on, look at the evidence, look at the camps, yes, some still exist and you can visit them, see the thousands of shoes and clothing piled up, still there. It's almost unbelievable, I grant you, because it is so horrible to think that people can commit mass murders when they are disciplined and ordered to do it. But the Holocaust was the result of a racist policy, planned and driven by the highest levels of the Nazi regime. We have a duty to understand what went on, so that we can ensure that it doesn't happen again.

👍 2 LIKE / ↩️ REPLY

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**CINDY BW** *May 9, 2017 11:11PM*

Interesting price on 60 minutes. But I found it disturbing that it was presented after the problem of illegal immigration.

It was as if CBS wanted to make a comparison between the holocaust and illegal immigration.

It was offensive. You're comparing two different situations. I felt this guy deserves more respect and not just be used as a prop to support a political agenda. Shame on you, CBS.

**FUTBOL-FAN** May 11, 2017 0:12PM

**@Cindy BW** Actually the presentation was not to justify the illegal immigration it was to discredit the racist and bigoted conduct by people who are not just against IMMIGRATION but are using these situations to promote racism and bigotry.

1 LIKE / REPLY

**HTOS1** May 11, 2017 3:3PM

**@futbol-fan @Cindy BW** No one agrees w/you.

LIKE / REPLY

**DAVEYO747** May 12, 2017 9:9AM

**@Cindy BW** All the countries that surrounded Germany during WW II, refused to accept the Ashkenazi Kahazar Jews into their country. This evidence came out later after being declassified. Hitler did try to send them out of Germany shipping them out, even Israel refused the refugees during WW II.

These are the Fake Jews Cindy. The real Hebrews still await their day to return back to their promise land, and they are alive and doing fine. Today these same fake jews are the Rothschilds and the Bildenbergs that control the entire world.

Nazi Germany never killed nor exterminated one genuine hebrew jewish person. This is a genuine authentic fact.

LIKE / REPLY

**BEEWAXIMUS** May 9, 2017 8:8PM

The comments are quite interesting. Obviously, in all wars there are war criminals who kill villagers... all countries involved in wars have these people who do this. Obviously, Germany took this to heart and extermination was ordered. The numbers exterminated do not matter. The lesson to be learned is that extermination is not the way - because it defies what it means to be human and you could be next.

I agree with the commentator who said that economic refugees should be denied entry to the US. That's not a good enough reason.

1 LIKE / REPLY

**CINDY BW** May 10, 2017 0:12AM

Bee. Comparing the holocaust with people who are being deported is offensive and an absurd. But that's the new low CBS reached on the last 60minutes program.

1 LIKE / REPLY

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