Choosing Life – Resistance and Rescue during the Shoah

Jewish Partisans Project

This project is intended to allow you an opportunity to get to know a Jewish Partisan and their story on a personal level, as well as learning about the experiences of other Jewish Partisans during World War 2. We will be using the Jewish Partisan's Educational Foundation website (http://www.jewishpartisans.org) as our reference. If you are doing a female partisan, you can also find information at www.jwa.org You may use other materials, but these websites should have all you need to complete this assignment.

Steps to the Project

- 1. Choose a partisan during class
- 2. Go to the information page about your partisan and begin your study
- 3. Learn as much as you can about your partisan's life prior to and experience during the War.
- 4. Write up, in first person (from their point of view) the story of their life through World War 2. If they survived, you can say briefly what they did after the war but the main focus is before and during the war.
- 5. Present, as your partisan, their story to the class in an engaging and educational format.
- 6. Learn about other partisans and be able to compare and contrast their experiences.

You will be responsible for taking notes during the presentations so that you can complete an activity comparing the various Partisan activities and experiences. You will be given a grid to assist in this note taking.

Pieces of Information to be sure you include in your presentation

Where they lived prior to war

Some information about their family or life prior to the war

How/when/why they get involved with Partisans

Which Partisan group they were with (Soviet, Bielski, French Underground, Tito...)

What they did as a Partisan –what was their job, example of them doing it

How the war ended for them

A great quote or two from their video would be super!

You are allowed to quote freely - I know your resource and you are speaking as that person so it is appropriate.

Your presentation should be no more than 5 minutes – a short PowerPoint (2-3 slides) with your quote, **a photo**, and **names of places** and other required info on it would be helpful to your classmates.

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Topic	Expectation	Comment/Score
Life before the war	Paints a picture of the life prior	
	to the war including where they	
	lived and their family	
		/5
Becoming involved with	Explains how they first became	
Partisans and work with the	involved with Partisans and gives	
Partisans	details about what sort of work	
	they did as a Partisan	
		/10
After the war	How the war ended, what they	
	did after the war	
		/5
Presentation	Done in character, informative	
	and engaging.	
		/5
Total score		
		/25

Name:	 	 	
Partisan:	 	 	

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Information Collection Grid

Name	Country	Job as Partisan	Unique fact or quote

Partisans/Resistance Reflective Essay

Write a short reflective essay (2-3 substantial paragraphs) about your thoughts on armed resistance during the Shoah. What surprised you? What story did you most connect with or find inspiring? What questions do you still have? Please share any other thoughts or feelings about the Partisans and others who fought **unofficially** to stop the Nazis. You may use anything we learned in this unit so far and should use your info grid from the presentations to give specifics about the Partisans.

Please turn in your completed grid with your essay – you should have all lines filled except for your person.

Suggestions to have enough to say –
Compare jobs
Compare men's experiences to women's
Discuss where they were from
What quotes were inspiring?
How did their quotes and stories make you feel?
How did the fact that they could fight make these Jews feel?

Due: