

# TIMELINE: DORIS FOGEL

Blue - Doris Timeline; Black - Historical Timeline



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## JANUARY 1933

Hitler becomes Chancellor in Germany under President Hindenburg.

## AUGUST 1934

President Hindenburg dies, Hitler assumes total power, and names himself Führer. Germany becomes a dictatorship.

## OCTOBER 1935

Doris' father, Alfons, dies.

## 1937

Fighting breaks out within China, placing large sections of Shanghai under Japanese control as part of the ongoing Japanese occupation. This includes Hongkew, the International Settlement where European Jews would eventually settle. This area would remain under Japanese control throughout World War II.

## JULY 1938

Representatives from 32 countries gather at what became known as the Evian Conference to discuss the growing refugee crisis as Jewish people looked to emigrate from Germany and Austria. Despite all countries expressing sympathy for refugees and encouraging a solution, only the Dominican Republic agrees to accept more refugees. There are very few safe places for Jewish refugees to emigrate. Shanghai remains an open port.

## 1938 - 1939

Approximately 17,000 Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria flee to Shanghai in the wake of the violence of *Kristallnacht*. In response to the refugee crisis, the Committee for Assistance of European Jewish Refugees is formed within Shanghai. They receive funding from the Joint Distribution Committee (an American Jewish relief organization) in New York that increases from \$5,000 in 1938 to \$100,000 in 1939.

## 1940 - 1941

About 2,100 Polish and Lithuanian Jews manage to escape to Shanghai. Many of them received help from Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat who saved the lives of more than 2,000 Jewish refugees over the course of World War II by approving transit visas to safer destinations, such as Shanghai. He was recognized by Yad Vashem as Righteous Among the Nations in 1985.

## 1933-1938

Numerous persecutory laws are passed in Germany that restrict and revoke the citizenship of German Jews, and various policies encouraging Jewish people to emigrate are put in place. Approximately 1,500 German and Austrian Jews emigrate to Shanghai during this time.

## 1934

Doris Fogel is born in Berlin, Germany to Alfons and Edith Warschawski.

## MARCH 1938

Germany annexes Austria into the Third Reich. The Jewish population under German control more than doubles.

## NOVEMBER 1938

The German government instigates a government-sponsored terror campaign against Jewish businesses, synagogues, and people in Germany, annexed Austria, and areas of the Sudetenland. Thousands of Jewish men are arrested and sent to concentration camps amid the violence. This campaign comes to be known as *Kristallnacht*, or the Night of Broken Glass. Doris is 4 years old and still living in Berlin with her mother during this event.

## DECEMBER 1938

Doris and her mother leave Berlin with the help of their neighbors, the Basches. Their destination is Shanghai.

## JANUARY 1939

Doris and her mother arrive in Shanghai and live with the Basches in a one-room apartment in Hongkew.

## AUGUST 1939

Visas are now required for entering Shanghai. Up until this point, it had been completely free and effortless to enter this sanctuary in the city and in Hongkew.

# TIMELINE: DORIS FOGEL (CONTINUED)

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## DECEMBER 1941

The Japanese military attacks Pearl Harbor, inciting the United States' entry into World War II. After this attack, harsher restrictions are placed upon the refugees living in Hongkew. Japan accepts the "stateless" status of Jewish refugees who had been stripped of their citizenship by Nazi Germany. Food and supplies become scarcer in an area already facing severe overcrowding, and refugees are no longer allowed to travel to other areas of the city.

## 1943

Japan forces "stateless" refugees, including Polish Jews, to live in a "designated area" of the International Settlement in Hongkew, creating the area now known as the Shanghai Ghetto.

## 1945

Japan surrenders, officially ending World War II. A week later, Japan begins to withdraw from China, ending their 8-year occupation of the Manchuria region and Shanghai.

## 1947

Doris and her mother immigrate to America and arrive in San Francisco. The family that sponsored their immigration, the Hellers, are from Peoria, Illinois. They also sponsor the Basches. Doris and her mother soon move to the Midwest and settle in Chicago.

## 1952

Doris Fogel becomes a citizen of the United States.