



## Holocaust Memorial Video Streaming Collection Film Guide

**Movie:** **A Pause in the Holocaust** Time: 56 minutes, English /French /Italian w/ subtitles

**Theme:** Humanism and Resistance

**Summary:** This film provides the viewer with a little-known story of the saving of Jews from Saint Martin, France. Through interviews with various Frenchmen, Italians and Jews who were there, the story unfolds of how the Italian occupying force in Vichy France protected and allowed the Jews to live a normal life for 10 months during the war. The interviewees report that as the German troops began to invade the area in September 1943 and the Italian occupying army withdrew, the Italians helped many Jews climb the alps with them for safer harbor in Italy. Unfortunately, their supposed save haven was occupied by German troops and most of the Jews were deported except for those saved by Italian peasants and clergy who eventually were recognized as Righteous Among the Nations.

### **Summary Questions:**

1. Where does this episode take place primarily?
2. Who was the head of the Italian government in WWII?
3. Under what zone were the Jews allowed to live a normal life during WWII?
4. What type of sports club did the Jewish community of St. Martin establish?
5. What organization helped the destitute Jews with money for food?
6. Describe the stand-off between the German tanks and the Italian tanks.
7. Who was the American general that made the Italian army surrender?
8. Once the Italians left France, who did the Vichy government want to deport?
9. What was necessary for the Jews to have in order to climb the pass?
10. How were those that saved the Jews honored?

### **Reflective Questions:**

1. How did the Jews feel about the Italian army's domination of the Italian Zone?
2. How did the Italian troops protect the 12 Jewish leaders about to be deported?



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3. How was the stand-off between the German tanks and the Italian army, regarding the German request for 2000 Jewish men resolved?
4. Describe some of the activities the Jews were able to enjoy under the Italian occupation.
5. Describe the ordeal of climbing the mountain to escape from France to Italy.
6. Explain the two reasons why the Italians saved the Jews.
7. Describe the moment that the Jews returned to meet those who saved them.
8. How were the Italians honored for saving the Jews?

### **STANDARDS:**

#### **Middle School**

**Subject:** Social Studies

**Strand:** *SS.6.W: World History*

**Standard 1:** *SS.6.W.1 – Utilize historical inquiry skills and analytical processes.*

**Benchmark:** *SS.6.W.1.3 Interpret primary and secondary sources.*

#### **High School**

**Subject:** Social Studies

**Strand:** *SS.012.G: Geography*

**Standard 2:** *SS.,912.G.2 Understand physical and cultural characteristics of places.*

**Benchmark:** *SS.912.G.2.1 Identify the physical characteristics and the human characteristics that define and differentiate regions.*

**Strand:** *SS.912.W: World History*

**Standard 7:** *SS.912.W.7 Recognize significant causes, events, figures, and consequences of the Great War period and the impact on worldwide balance of power.*

**Benchmark:** *SS.912.W.7.5 Describe the rise of authoritarian governments in the Soviet Union, Italy, German and Spain, and analyze the policies and main ideas of Vladimir Lenin, Joseph Stalin, Benito Mussolini, Adolf Hitler and Francisco Franco.*

**Strand:** *SS.912.S: Sociology*

**Standard 4:** *SS.912.S.4 Social Groups/Explore the impacts of social groups on individual and group behavior.*

**Benchmark:** *SS.912.S.4.11 Discuss how humans interact in a variety of social settings.*

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