**Access William vanden Heuvel’s essay on America and the Holocaust on the weebly page- http://dedwardsushistory.weebly.com/unit-6-resource-page.html**

**Answer the following questions using specific factual information as you read the essay:**

1. Would you agree with Winston Churchill that the Holocaust “was probably the greatest and most terrible crime ever committed in the whole history of the world”?
2. Do you believe that the American government did all within its power to prevent it?
3. Why does vanden Heuvel argue that most German Jews, in spite of anti-Semitism, were reluctant to abandon their homeland?
4. Explain how immigration laws dictated the number of refugees who could enter the United States. Why did labor and business leaders and many members of Congress want to maintain those quotas?
5. Why did both Cuba and the U.S. refuse to accept most Jewish passengers on the St Louis? What did the future hold for most of those travelers?
6. How do we know that President Roosevelt and the American people had knowledge of the senseless slaughter of Jews in concentration camps? Why was there no attempt to bomb Auschwitz or the railroad lines leading to that death camp? What did FDR believe was the most effective strategy to end the Holocaust?
7. What was the reaction of Generals Eisenhower and Patton when they liberated the death camps?
8. Do you view this selection as an apology for American actions or a realistic appraisal of the response of the U.S. toward the Holocaust?