

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910777403403321
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Titolo	Holocaust Odysseys : The Jews of Saint-Martin-Vesubie and Their Flight through France and Italy // Susan Zuccotti
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven, CT : , : Yale University Press, , [2008] ©2008
ISBN	1-281-72275-8 9786611722753 0-300-13455-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (1 online resource (xv, 285 p., [16] p. of plates)) : ill., maps
Disciplina	940.53/1809224494
Soggetti	Jews - France - Saint-Martin-Vesubie Jewish children in the Holocaust - France - Saint-Martin-Vesubie Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945) - France Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945) - Italy World War, 1939-1945 - Deportations from France Holocaust survivors Saint-Martin-Vesubie (France) Biography
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 233-271) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Maps -- Preface -- Introduction -- chapter one Jewish Immigrants and Political Refugees in France, 1933-1939 -- chapter two Jewish Immigrants and Political Refugees in Belgium and Luxembourg before the War -- chapter three Flight to Southern France, May and June 1940 -- chapter four Jewish Refugees in the Unoccupied Zone, May 1940-August 1942 -- chapter five Arrests in the Occupied Zone, 1941-1942 -- chapter six Arrests in the Unoccupied Zone, August 1942 -- chapter seven Narrow Escapes and Subsequent Arrests in the Unoccupied Zone, August-November 1942 -- chapter eight Saint-Martin-Vesubie, November 1942- September 1943 -- chapter nine Crossing the Alps after September 8, 1943 -- chapter ten Those Who Stayed Behind -- chapter eleven The First Week in Italy, September 11-17, 1943 -- chapter twelve The Roundup in Valdieri and Borgo San

Dalmazzo, September 18, 1943 -- chapter thirteen Deportation from Borgo San Dalmazzo -- chapter fourteen Hiding in the Province of Cuneo -- chapter fifteen Resistance -- chapter sixteen Traveling to and Hiding in Florence, September and October 1943 -- chapter seventeen Arrests and Narrow Escapes in Florence, November 1943 -- chapter nineteen Auschwitz -- chapter twenty .After the War -- chapter twenty-one After the War -- chapter twenty-two Journeys Back -- Conclusion -- Principal Witnesses -- Abbreviations -- Notes -- Index

Sommario/riassunto

This book describes the ever-escalating dangers to which Jewish refugees and recent immigrants were subjected in France and Italy as the Holocaust marched forward. Susan Zuccotti uncovers a grueling yet complex history of suffering and resilience through historical documents and personal testimonies from members of nine central and eastern European Jewish families, displaced to France in the opening years of the Second World War. The chronicle of their lives reveals clearly that these Jewish families experienced persecution of far greater intensity than citizen Jews or long-time resident immigrants. The odyssey of the nine families took them from hostile Vichy France to the Alpine village of Saint-Martin-Vésubie and on to Italy, where German soldiers rather than hoped-for Allied troops awaited. Those who crossed over to Italy were either deported to Auschwitz or forced to scatter in desperate flight. Zuccotti brings to light the agonies of the refugees' unstable lives, the evolution of French policies toward Jews, the reasons behind the flight from the relative idyll of Saint-Martin-Vésubie, and the choices that confronted those who arrived in Italy. Powerful archival evidence frames this history, while firsthand reports underscore the human cost of the nightmarish years of persecution.
