Jesse Owens & Kristallnacht

By: Emily Angelo

Who was he?

Jesse Owens was an African American runner. He competed in the 1936 Olympics that took place in Berlin, Germany. Jesse has broken many records since his high school career, through college in track and field.





How did Hitler treat him?

Hitler did not want any of the African Americans winning any of the awards at the Olympics. When Jesse won not only one gold medal, but four gold medals he was not very pleased. Yet Hitler only snubbed (gave cold shoulder) to Jesse. The one who was not the nicest was FDR. Jesse did not receive the right respect after winning these gold medals. When he went back to the hotel after the games, he was not allowed through the front door with his wife due to the fact that he was a different skin color.

What happened after the 1936 Olympics?

After the Olympics there was a movie filmed called "Race". It was all about Jesse, and after people had seen this film they sent letters back to his family saying how much they appreciated it. This is when Jesse finally got the respect he deserved. He then became a motivational speaker encouraging African American Children to accomplish things and to seek a better life. In 1980, Jesse had died due to lung cancer at the age of 66.

Kristallnacht event:

The Kristallnacht event occurred on November 9 and 10, 1938, and was a wave of violence throughout Germany, Austria, and parts of Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia. The people that were involved with the scene was the Nazi Party officials, and Hitler Youth. What happened to cause this was an outburst from Herschel Grynszpan, a 17 year old polish jew, where he shot Vom Rath, a german official. Two days after the shooting took place Vom Rath had died.





Damage that was caused from Kristallnacht

During the two days there was a lot of damage that was caused. During the day and throughout the night there were 267 synagogues burned to the ground. The windows of 7, 500 Jewish owned stores were broken. 30,000 Jewish males were arrested, along with 91 Jewish lives were taken. The aftermath of Kristallnacht has police with a high documented number of rapes

and suicides.

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