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3:03pm Friday, December 6th, 2024



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EXCLUSIVE

Australian holocaust survivor compares vile attacks on Israeli soccer fans in Amsterdam to antisemitism he faced during and after World War II: 'Disgusting'

A Sydney Holocaust survivor has compared attacks on Israeli soccer fans in Amsterdam to his own experiences in Nazi-occupied Netherlands, and warned Australia is heading for similar levels of violence.



Caroline Marcus Senior Reporter

🕒 2 min read November 11, 2024 - 2:40PM

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An Australian Holocaust survivor has compared attacks on Jewish soccer fans in Amsterdam to antisemitism he and other Dutch Jews experienced during and after WWII.

"I don't get too upset about things in life, I just take them as they come, but just seeing that and listening to the commentary, it was disgusting."

Dutch authorities arrested 62 people following the attacks, which took place after a match between Amsterdam's Ajax and Maccabi Tel Aviv on Thursday night, local time.

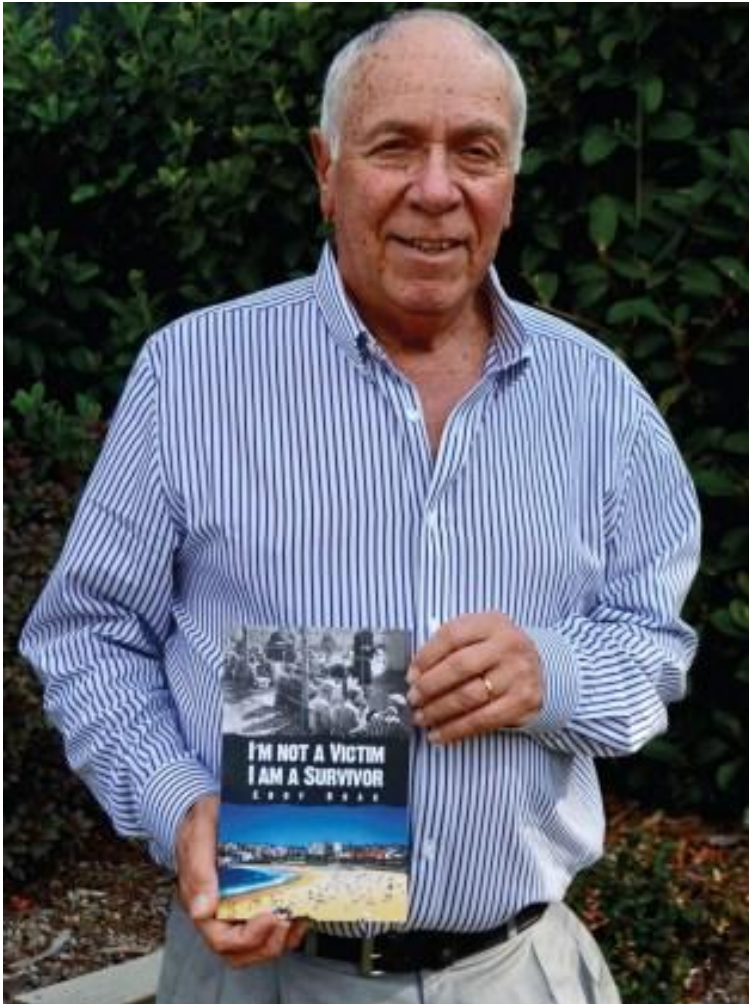
Five people had to be hospitalised and up to 30 suffered from minor injuries, as reports emerged of people being thrown into canals and rammed with cars.

The violence was described by Amsterdam mayor Femke Halsema as "hit and run attacks", while Dutch prime minister Dick Schoof condemned the "antisemitic violence against Israelis".



Liberal Senator Dave Sharma says there is a "loss of control" on Australian streets for antisemitism.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu compared the attacks to Kristallnacht, the state-sanctioned pogrom in Nazi Germany in 1938, in which 91 Jews were killed.



Holocaust survivor Eddy Boas. Picture: Supplied

An Australian Holocaust survivor has compared attacks on Jewish soccer fans in Amsterdam to antisemitism he and other Dutch Jews experienced during and after WWII.

Mr Boas was three years old when Nazis snatched him, his older brother and parents from their apartment in The Hague and took them to Bergen Belsen concentration camp.

Miraculously, the Boases were the only family unit on record to survive the camps, but when they returned to the

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\$25 for every Jew they brought in.

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An Australian Holocaust survivor compared attacks on Jewish soc Amsterdam to the antisemitism f

"After the war, when we came back to the flat we had lived in, [my parents] got the door slammed in their face. My parents went to the police, who didn't want to know them. My parents went to the Hague City Council, they didn't want to know either."

More Jews were killed per capita during the Holocaust in the Netherlands than in any other western European country.

"The records show that the worst country for Jews was Holland – the Netherlands," Mr Boas said.

"Out of 107,000 Jews returned from concentration camps, only 5000 survived - 102,000 were murdered."

Mr Boas' family escaped to Australia when he was still a child, and he grew up in Coogee, in Sydney's east.