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# The day Irish and Jewish joined forces against British fascists

- To understand -

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**By Martin McNamara. Published on Mon, Feb 26, 2018.**

**Divided London community united against common enemy in Battle of Cable Street.**



British politician Sir Oswald Ernald Mosley (1896 - 1980) inspects members of his British Union of Fascists in Royal Mint Street, London. Their presence sparked a riot which became known as the Battle of Cable Street. Photograph : Central Press/Getty

Here were these two very different communities, herded into this tiny, overcrowded and often violent ghetto, both struggling to survive in a city that didn't really want them and often coming into conflict with each other.

But somehow, when it mattered the most, they came together to hold out against an outside force that they both identified as the enemy.

After hours of brutal clashes with protesters using clubs, sticks and bits of furniture as weapons, Mosley was forced abandoned his march. The next day he flew to Germany with his mistress to be married in a secret ceremony, in the Berlin home of Nazi propaganda chief Joseph Goebbels, with Adolf Hitler as guest of honour.