

In April 1944, two Slovakian Jewish prisoners, named Rudolf Vrba and Alfred Wetzler, escaped from Auschwitz and gave Slovak Jewish Council leader Oscar Krasniansky a detailed account of what was happening at the death camp. Krasniansky translated the account and compiled it into a 32-page report that, for the first time, gave accurate and in-depth information on the methods and extent of the Nazis' extermination efforts. Romanian diplomat Florian Manoliu gave it to George Mandel-Mantello for his rescue efforts. Mandel-Mantello, whose own parents were deported on the same day he received the Protocol, recopied it, translated it (into various languages with the help of hired students) and facilitated a campaign to disseminate the report to Swiss clergy, the press and foreign diplomats. The following is the English translation.

Source: [United States Holocaust Memorial Museum](#)

deutsche 24. Juli 1944

Zurich, July 4th 1944.

Attached hereto we are sending you two reports from Hungary with an accompanying letter, dated June 19th 1944. They come from an absolutely reliable source and were brought into Switzerland through diplomatic channels. These reports have shaken us profoundly. Our sense of responsibility compels us to bring these two reports also to your knowledge.

We do not doubt but that you will take the trouble to read these statements and to make them known in your circle. The authorities in question have also taken note of them.

ZÜRICH, July 4th. 1944

Yours very sincerely

Prof. D. Karl Barth, Basel
Prof. D. Emil Brunner, Zurich
Dr. W.A. Visser t'Hooft, Geneva
Pastor Paul Vogt, Zurich.

Budapest, June 19th 1944.

Mr. George Mandel Mantello
6, Av. Ad. Fabry
G e n e v a

Dear Sir,

I have just received your visiting card and take advantage of the opportunity to send you the enclosed two reports concerning the situation here. As you will see from the reports attached, the deportations from Hungary began on May 15th and within a period of three weeks, i.e. up to June 7th, 335,000 Jews have already been deported. Approximately 90% of them to Poland, Birkenau-Auschwitz, and the other remainder to Germany.

As far as the situation in Hungary is concerned, I should like to state that there is a great difference between deportations from Hungary and deportations from other countries under German occupation. In those countries the execution of these measures lay exclusively in the hands of the Gestapo and no help was forthcoming either from the population itself or the authorities. Here, however, the passive attitude of the population (which even seems to condone these measures) encourages the Government to act with increasing cruelty and the Hungarian Government even endeavours to surpass the demands of the German authorities in every respect. Furthermore, while in other countries the physical sufferings of the Jews began with the actual deportation, the Hungarian police begin already in the ghettos to cruelly torment the people in order to discover where they have hidden the riches they are supposed still to possess. As you aware, the fortunes of the Hungarian Jews were already confiscated a few weeks ago, and money and gold was given up. Already many Jews have fallen victim to the above mentioned maltreatment in the ghettos and most of them are loaded half dead into waggons. We have tried various ways and means of saving these people, but unfortunately until now all our attempts have been unsuccessful. The German authorities make promises, but do not keep them, while the Hungarian Quisling government is not even prepared to give promises or enter into any negotiations. Compared with conditions in occupied countries there is still a further difference, as the Hungarian Government is not entirely subordinated to the German authorities of occupation, they could in some respects be of some help, but they decline to do anything.

As is shown in the attached reports, 335,000 Jews were deported up to June 7th, and since that date a further 100,000. In the provinces there are only four towns where there are still some Jews, and after the deportations from these towns have been carried through, it will be the turn of Budapest. The number of Jews living in Budapest and the surroundings amounts to 350,000. The ghetto-system was introduced in the surroundings of the town weeks ago and its inauguration began in Budapest itself on June 16th and must be terminated by June 21st. A special system was used in Budapest, i.e. the Jews were massed together in houses grouped like the fields of a chess-board, as the Hungarian government feared that if the Jews in Budapest were all gathered together in one part of the town, the other quarters would be in danger of much heavier bombardments.

You will have gathered from the above, that the whole Jewish race in Hungary is condemned to death. There are no exceptions, there is no escape, there is no possibility of concealment, and we have to face our fate. We have not even the possibility of escaping to a neighbouring country. The only country which would come into consideration is Roumania, but its frontiers towards Hungary are so closely guarded, that it is practically impossible to cross them. There are only two possibilities left to us: suicide or acceptance of our fate.

The Swiss Legation in Budapest, Department of foreign interests, has done its best, but unfortunately without any success whatsoever. It is a great mistake that this Department has not got sufficient power and authority, as otherwise its Chief, Consul LUTZ who is a remarkable personality and spares no pains in order to assist the Jews, could take steps which might be successful. I myself am a personal friend of Mr. Lutz.

Dear Mr. Mantello, I really do not know what to ask of you. I see no possibility of escape, as we only have a few days before us. However, in case the Christian world should endeavour to take steps in our favour, it would be possible to save a few thousand persons by issuing Palestinian passports, i.e. granting the Palestinian citizenship to certificate-holders. In this event the Swiss Legation would have to be authorised to issue such passports after the necessary passport forms have been put at their disposal, but this would have to be done immediately, otherwise it is too late. Passports of neutral states might also be issued.

At present I am still at liberty, but for how long I do not know. Would it not be possible for you to obtain a Swiss, or eventually a British passport for me and my wife through the respective authorities? I do not know whether I will have another opportunity of writing to you. It would, however, be a satisfaction for me if you could publish this letter and the enclosed reports either now or at a later date, so that the world may learn of the cruelties committed in the 20th century in so-called civilised countries. In case you have an opportunity of writing me or sending me anything, please send it to the following address: Swiss Legation, Department for Foreign Interests, Budapest V, Szabadsag ter 12.

I send you my best greetings and would ask you to kindly convey my kindest regards to Dr. Lichtheim, Dr. Scheeps, Dr. Kahany, Dr. Fritz Ullmann and Nathan Schwalb. Furthermore I would ask you to kindly transmit copy of this letter as well as of the two reports with my best regards to Mr. Barlas and Dr. Goldin, with whom I am out of touch since March 19th.

I beg you to intervene wherever possible and to appeal to every person of sentiment. We are sure that the Americans and English will help. Please help us !

The concentration of Hungarian Jews began on April 16th 1944 - always and ever in the same matter. In the beginning precipitated concentration in the Ghetto, then after constant deterioration of conditions in brick-yards, in court-yards, without water on the bare earth, plunderings of Jews of all their material belongings, then brutal cross-questionings together with heavy physical ill-treatment to find pretended hidden Jewelleries, at the end deportation, 70 people in one waggon, a tub of water as proviant. We cannot describe how the concentration was executed in all places, though the dates we have, - but we give in short words a picture about the short life of some of the most characteristic concentration places.

Nyiregyhaza.

April 16th. The Jews of Nyiregyhaza and the 12 km distant Simapuszta, totally of 46 communities, were displaced. In Nyiregyhaza itself 4120 Jews of Nyiregyhaza and 6639 of its surrounding, totally 10 759 persons, were penned up in 123 houses. The area of these 123 houses, kitchens and halls included, was totally 9665 qm. There was therefore not even 1 qm for one person. According to orders, each person could besides the clothes he wore take with him 2 sets of underwear and one package of 50 kg, containing food for two weeks. Unfortunately, the Jews in the provinces were so suddenly and surprisingly driven together by the gendarmes, that they could not take anything with them. As example let us tell about the Jews of Nyirbator which were driven out from Simapuszta. On Friday, 21st of April, 11 o'clock at night, they were fetched from their homes by strange gendarmes and half an hour later on waggons from other villages brought to Simapuszta, brutally treated.

May 1st. The situation has become vitally worse. On the street in Nyiregyhaza, specially designed for the Ghetto, people were brought to Padospuszta, where food-supply is very bad. The people asked for coverings, straw, so that at least the old and sick ones could be spared to lay on the bare earth.

May 5th. The Jews, concentrated from the surroundings of Nyiregyhaza are transported from this town to the farm of Baron Molnar, approximately 6 km away, where they are placed in tobacco-barns, terribly overcrowded. There is only one pump, 150 m away, and the people are only allowed to go there under the escorte of a gendarm to get water, and this only limited. Tragically is, that the inhabitants of Nyiregyhaza itself, who had, after heavy ill-treatments, placed themselves in the Ghetto, had according to new orders now to leave the nearly accomplished Ghetto.

May 7th. In the morning-twillight the camp of Nyirgospuszta as well as Simapuszta is surrounded of gendarmes, so that nobody can come near it, the people starve, they receive daily 100 gramm bread and as much beans. They have no money, and clothes only as they wear on their body.

May 8th. The displacement of Nyiregyhaza goes on. Only the members of the Jewish council and the exsoldiers are left. In Nyirjapuszta are 5665 people, penned up on a space of some qm, treatment as in concentration-camps. The situation becomes still more unbearable as the only pump becomes muddy. The lack of water in Simapuszta is still greater as in Nyirjes. Today one starts to fill up the camp of Harangotpuszta.

May 10th. The displacement to Harangotpuszta goes on. The tobacco-barns there cannot hold more than 3000 persons, but already on May 10th a greater quantity of people is placed there, dangerously overcrowded. This camp has no water at all, as the digging for pumps has no success. Though it was allowed to take the most necessary things with them, the gendarmes at the entrance of the camp took them away, even the greatest part of the proviant. The daily ration in the camps Simapuszta, Varjulapos and Nyirjes is 100 gramm bread, 100 gramm potatoes, 10 gramm flower per head.

May 15th. Monday in the earliest hours of the day the first 3200 people, among them olds, illis, babies, pregnant women, 70 among them heavily ill-treated, - totally isolated from the other population - were put into waggons, unknown whereto.

May 22nd. By telephone we learn in the morning that more than 9600 were deported. There is no more concentration camp in Nyirjes and Harangotpuszta, in Simapuszta are still 760 persons, in Nyiregyhaza are only the members of the Jewish council left.

May 23rd. Also the 760 Jews of Nyiregyhaza in Simapuszta were put into waggons.

June 6th. From a telephone with the police we learn that all Jews from Nyiregyhaza and the surrounding "Pusztas" are deported, among them also Oberrabbi Dr. Bela Bernstein.

Munkacs.

April 30th. The Jews of Munkacs, approximately 15000, were placed in 12 lanes. The appr. 20 000 Jews of the Comitát Bereg were concentrated in the brick-yards of Kallus and Sajovits. Having not been allowed to take money or food with them, their situation is fearful and catastrophic.

May 1st. German soldiers are forcing their way into the Ghettos, this costs several deads. 3 cases of Typhoid are reported. The situation is terrible because lack of medicines and food. One physician and one ingeneer commit suicide.

May 9th. 2 members of the Jewish council were shot, the others heavily ill-treated.

May 14th. The situation in the Ghetto of the town and especially in the 2 brick-yards has become considerably worse on Sunday morning. To leave the Ghetto or the camp resp., till now possible for Jewish functionaries and Jewish emergency police, is now prohibited. The brick-yards were surrounded by camp-gendarmes, and now the deportation of the concentrated begins. Families are separated, persons able to work or unable to work are put into waggons under terrible conditions and accompanied of heaviest atrocities. On Monday a new transport is made. The number of the members of the Jewish council is reduced from 12 to 6.

May 18th. The greatest camp, where appr. 13 000 persons were penned together, is empty on Wednesday, the evacuation having begun on Sunday. The transport, 70 - 80 persons pro waggon, goes direction Kassá. The deported could take nothing with them, if they had better clothes, one took them away from them, each waggon has only one tub of water. These Jews martyred to death, wanted to break out of the waggons in Satoraljaújhely, 30 of them thereby (happily) lost their lives. The smaller camp is also in liquidation, 7000 people are there. The Jews of Munkacs, placed in the Ghetto, are displaced under severe circumstances in the greater camp on the 17th in the morning. The circumstances of this displacement were so brutal, that some of the Jews went with knives against the police. 5 Jews lost thereby their life. The same fate had, although belonging to a special categorie, even physicians, sent there by orders of the Ministry of Interior.

May 30th. We receive the following depressing news: Munkacs, Ruszt, Nagyszőlös are empty, all the Jews were deported.

Nagyvárad.

May 3rd. In the morning twilight the Ghetto-posters are put on, and already at 5 o'clock in the morning a detective accompanied by a policeman takes away all valuables from the Jews. 15 - 20 minutes for the packing of the most necessary clothes, bedding and food for 14 days are granted. 16 - 18 persons are penned up in one room. The windows against the streets are barricaded with planks, the Ghetto hedged up.

May 11th. The guarding of the Ghetto becomes intensified on the 11th. The police is replaced by the gendarmerie, so that one cannot even come near the Ghetto. Even lanes, leading to the Ghetto, for instance the Szacsavay-Lane, Kertesz-Lane, Kapucinus-Lane, are guarded by the police, which allows the Arian population only to go on the trottoir. The richer or as rich known Jews are arrested without exception. They are kept in the police head quarters or with the gendarmerie in the Burg, where they are devilish treated. One wants to force them to give up the hiding places of pretended treasures.

May 24th. The small Ghetto, where the jews from the surrounding were concentrated, is nearly emptied. The half dead people were waggoned, 70 in one waggon. The great Ghetto is still closer surrounded, the torture continuous.

May 25th. The deportaton still continuous. Nagyvarad is free of jews.

Kassa.

April 28th. 11 streets are designed as Ghetto for the jews of Kassa. On April 30th these 11 streets are reduced to 3. Finally the greatest part of the jews of Kassa are placed in the brick-yard.

May 2nd. The fate of the 12000 jews, placed in the brick-yard, is catastrophic. Though women, children and olds are placed in the drying-loft, which has a roof, the space does not give them any real shelter, as it has no side-walls and as the people are bare of all belongings. They had to leave their homes so suddenly, that they came without the most necessary things and without any food-supply to the brick-yards. Only 60% of the deplaced received food. Drinking-water is brought once a day by the town-sprinklers.

May 8th. From a sincere old friend, a prominent personality, we received the following letter: "For a few hours I am out of all the horrors. I am ordered by the public-kitchen to do some work. I am afraid, I can't bear it long, because we suffer undiscrivable. We are laying in the dust, we have no straw, no covering, we shall freeze to death. My appartement is sealed, I see no way out. Don't send me anything, we do not receive it anyhow. For a few days we had still to eat, how it will go on only God knows. We are nearly about 15000 persons. From the public-kitchen we receive sometime once a day, waiting long time in a row, some kind of soup. But who will keep up this institution, as the "Cultuscommunity" will not be able to do so? I am not eating since days, hoping so to shorten my way. We are so neglected that we do not look like men anymore. No possibility to clean oneself. Since we are here we came not out of our clothes. Greetings to all of you, pray for us that we die soon".

May 15th. The first 8 barracks of the first camp are emptied. Thus the last stage of the sufferings of the jews of Kassa began. Firstly 4800 people were put into waggons, men and boys were forced by the gendarmes and policemen to put up all their clothes before the waggons so that they could not hide anything. Women and girls had the same treatments in the barracks. Four weeks of concentration had reduced some of us so much, that 8 of them died when put into the waggons. One waggon contained 70-80 persons, brutally pushed in.

May 18th. The displacement is going on. The concentration camp is totally isolated by gendarmes and police, not even the members of the Jewish Council can enter the camp.

May 20th. At 6 o'clock in the evening the members of the Jewish Council are arrested. Those Arians who helped the Jews in any way are also put in the wagons and together with the Jews carried off.

June 7th. There are no more Jews in Kassa.

Under such and similar circumstances the entire Jewish population of Hungary, with the exception of Budapest, was concentrated. The measures taken in Budapest were just published, there is no doubt what fate awaits the Jews of Budapest.

At present the following towns are absolutely free of Jews: Munkacs, Ungvár, Gergaszasz, Nagyszőlős, Huszt, Maramarosziget, Nagyvárad, Nagybánya, Beszterce, Kolozsvár, Marosvásárhely, Szatmárnemety, Mateszakla, Baja, Barcs, Bacstopolya, Ujvidek, Szabadka, Zenta, Zombor, Márkósz, Gyöngyös, Satoraljaiújhegy, Sarospatak, Szilágysomlyó, Szasrégen, Sepziszentgyörgy, Tecso, Aknaszlatina, Nagykaroly, Felsővisó, Nagykanizsa, Kassa, Décs, Nyíregyháza, Kisvárd.

The population of the following towns has been concentrated together with the Jewish population of the surroundings and will be deported in these days:

Komárom, Győr, Dunaszerdahely, Miskolc, Fecs.

<u>Subcarpathien</u>	Munkacs	35 000	souls	
	Ungvár	12 000		
	Beregszász	9 000		
	Nagyszőlős	8 000		
	Huszt	12 000		
	Maramarosziget	12 000		
	Felsővisó	35 000		
	Tecso	8 000		
	Aknaszlatina	3 500		
	Iza	<u>3 000</u>		137 500 souls
<u>Transylvanien</u>	Nagybánya	14 000	souls	
	Beszterce	8 000		
	Kolozsvár	18 000		
	Marosvásárhely	6 000		
	Nagyvárad	25 000		
	Décs	6 000		
	Szilágysomlyó	8 000		
	Szasrégen	6 000		
Sepziszentgyörgy	<u>3 000</u>		94 000 souls	

<u>Oberungarn</u>	Kassa	15 000	souls	
	Satoraljaiújhegy			
	Sárospatak	15 000		
	Gyöngyös	<u>5 000</u>		35 000 souls
<u>Obers Tiszagegend</u>	Nyíregyháza	18 000	souls	
	Kisvárd	12 000		
	Mateszalka	12 000		
	Szatmárnémeti	25 000		
	Nagykaroly	<u>8 000</u>		75 000 souls
<u>Southern Hungaria</u>	Nagykanizsa	7 000	souls	
	Baja	8 000		
	Barcs	2 000		
	Bacstopolya	5 000		
	Ujvidek, Szabadka,			
	Zenta, Zombor,			
	Muraköz	<u>3000</u>		25 000 souls

From May 15th to June 10th totally 335 000 jews were deported from Hungaria.

Based on reliable informations 90 percent of the jews, deported from Hungaria, were brought to Auschwitz (Obersilesia).

We are in possession of a detailed description of the Annihilation camp of Auschwitz. From this detailed and several times controlled, by several sides acknowledged protocol, we give here only a short account. The protocol is wordly taken after the statement of two young slovacian jews. One of them has been brought on April 13th 1942 from the concentration camp of Czered to Auschwitz and from there to Birkenau, and the other came on June 14th 1942 from the camp near Novaky to Lublin, from there to Birkenau and later on to Auschwitz. These two young deported Slovakian jews succeeded, after long preparations and overhuman efforts, to escape, and they are now on neutral ground.

"In Auschwitz we were brought immediately into a great barrack. On one side of the barrack we had to give up our belongings, on the other side we had to put off all our clothes and had to deliver everything. Then we went to a near-by barrack, where we were absolutely depilated and disinfected with Lysol. Each one received a number when leaving the barrack. The numbers started with 28,600. With this number in our hand we were driven into a third barrack where, as a sign of our reception, the respective number was tattooed brutally on the left side of our breast. From there we were driven, 100 in a group, into a cellar, and then again in a barrack, where we received prisoner clothes and wooden shoes. These clothes were taken away from us on the same afternoon and we received old ragged formerly Russian uniforms. Thus we were brought to Birkenau.

The working camp of Birkenau and Harmanse, the small farming of the camp, was under the command of Auschwitz. The prisoners are according to their assignation to the camp supplied with continuous numbers. At the time of our escape, in the beginning of April 1944, this number was 180.000, lateron these numbers were tattooed in the left foot. Though the treatment of the prisoners was equally for all, they still were marked on their clothes by several letters or different signs according to their nationality and category of "crime". Particulars are to be found in the original protocol. On the areal of the camp of Auschwitz are the stellers of the DAW (Deutsche Auf-rüstungswerke) of the firm Krupp in Siemens, a great factory of the BUNA is still in building. Many prisoners work here.

The exact areal of the camp is 500 x 300 m, hedged by a double-row of 3 m high posts of beton, supplied with electrical current. Between both fences, about 150 m space, there are 5 m high watching towers, supplied with machine guns and searchlights. Before the inner fence with barbed wire there is an ordinary wire. Already touching this wire is answered with shootings from the towers. This guarding system is called "small guarding chain".

The camp itself consists of 3 houserows, opposite of it is the "great guarding chain" surrounding the whole camp in a radius of about 2 km with watching towers in a distance of 150 m each.

Between the small and the great "guarding chain" are the different attellers and working places. The "small guarding chain" is only at work at night when also the electrical current is put through on both fences. In the morning, when the guard of the "small guarding chain" is released, the watchmen become active in the towers of the "great guarding chain". To escape through these both "guarding chains" is nearly impossible. The watchmen of the great guarding chain are released only after appeal of the prisoners within the "smaller guarding chain". If an escape is noticed, sirens are yelling and the search of SS men with bloodhounds goes on within 3 days. After 3 days the hunt ends. When they fetch the escaped alive he is hanged in presence of the whole camp. If his corpse found somewhere, it is posted at the entrance of the camp and becomes a poster in his hand: "Here I am".

When we arrived in Birkenau, there was a kitchen for 15,000 men, furtheron two houses and one house still in building. Each building has about 300 qm and shelters each 400 - 500 persons. 3 days after my arrival I was sent together with 200 Slovakian jews to work in the DAW of Auschwitz. But our domicile was always Birkenau. Two times daily we received food. Lunch: 1 liter turnip soup, dinner: 300 gramm bad bread. The working conditions were the utmost bad and hard, so that most of us, weakened by starvation and unestable food, could not bear it. Of our working group alone daily 30 - 35 men died. Many were beaten during the work to death by the "Capos" (overseers). The breach thus resulting was daily filled up from others of Birkenau. When, after 14 days, the second transport arrived, from 650 persons of our transport only 150 were still alive. When returning to Auschwitz, I was ordered to the so-called sick-house as chef guardian. To this sick-house the ill prisoners, unable to work any more, were brought. We counted daily about 150 deads. The corpses were delivered to the Auschwitz Crematory.

At the same time began the so-called selection. Weekly, on Monday and Thursday, the physician pointed out the number of these prisoners, who were to be put to death by gas, whereafter their corpses were burned. The selected were taken on a truck, which brought them to a near birch wood. Who arrived there alive was put to death by gas and burnt in a ditch. In the sick-house, the notorious "block No 7", died weekly 2000 people, among them 1200 a natural dead, and about 800 through selection. The original record brings here exact notes about origine and number, labels respectively of the deported.

We give only the following account.

Running tattooed numbers of men:

38.000 - 38.600 : 600 French naturalized jews. These jews arrived with their families, totally 1600 souls. 400 men and 200 women of them, furnished with the above mentioned numbers, came as described in the camp, while the other 1000 French jews, elderly women, men and children were directly brought on a side track to the birch wood, where they were put to death by gas and burned.

Beginning from this period each new Jewish transport was treated similarly. Approximately 10 percent of the men and 5 percent of the women of the deported were brought in the camp, the others immediately put to death by gas and burnt.

Gassing and burning was executed by the so-called Sonder-command, which worked in two layers day and night. During this time about 100,000 Jews were put to death and burnt. The men of the Sonder-command lived separately. We came not in touch with them if only because of the cadaverous smell they spread. They were ever filthy, absolutely savage and brutal.

In February 1943 the new built crematory and the gas chamber was opened in Birkenau. At present there are 4 crematories working in Birkenau. A crematory consists of 3 parts:

- a) burning furnaces
- b) bathing hall
- c) gas chamber

In the middle of the furnaces is a high chimney, around him are placed 9 furnaces with 4 openings. Each opening can take hold of 3 normal corpses. The burning process takes about 1½ hours, the capacity of the furnaces is 2000 corpses a day. Near it is a big preparation hall giving the impression of a bathing institution. This hall has place for 2000 men and one said, there are under it equally great waiting rooms. From here leads a door and some steps in the still deeper located very long and small gas chamber. On the wall of the gas chamber are imitated showers, so that the chamber makes the impression of an immense bathing room. On the flat roof of the chamber is a window which can be closed hermetically by 3 valves. From the gas chamber to the furnaces leads a rail through the hall. The victims are brought in the hall where they are told that they are having a bath. They undress themselves in the hall and to deepen their believe, one gives them a towel and soap. Then they are driven into the gas chamber. After closing the doors the SS man distribute through the open valves a powdery chemical preparation out of tins into the chamber. The tins have labels "Cyklon for the combatting of wrongdoers" (Schadlingsbekämpfung). The label shows the mark of a Hamburg factory. Most probably it consists of a Zyan-preparation, which becomes gas in a certain temperature. After 3 minutes everybody is dead. Afterwards the Sonder-command brings the corpses to the furnaces. In the 4 crematories 6000 men a day are killed.

To the inauguration of the last crematory in March 1943, killing 8000 Jews from Krakau, prominent guests of Berlin were present. They were rather pleased by the capacity of this destruction apparatus and they followed the procedure through small peep-windows.

Running numbers

148.000 - 152.000: On September 7th 1943 family transports arrived from Theresienstadt. These were labelled SB transport of Czech Jews with 6 month quarantine. During this time they received special treatment. After this 6 months they were killed. The youth

went singing to their death. Only 11 twins were left alive. One used them for biological searches. These Czech jews were forced one week before their killing to write to their families post-dated and to ask for packages. These packages were used by the inner administration of the camp for the supply of other prisoners.

Each block has 5 functionaries:

- 1) block eldest
- 2) block clerk
- 3) attendant
- 4) block servant
- 5) etc.

At present the block eldest in Birkenau carries the number 11.182. His name is Franz Danisch, political prisoner from Königshütte. The block clerk is at present Nr.30.029, Kazimier Grok, polish political prisoner. The over command over the different blocks is in the hands of 6 - 8 SS bloc-leaders. The head of them is Untersturmführer Schwarzhuber from Tirol, a drinker and sadist.

A careful taxation shows that from April 1942 till April 1944 the following numbers of jews were put to death by gas at Birkenau:

from Poland	900.000
Holland	100.000
Greece	45.000
France	150.000
Belgium	50.000
Germany	60.000
Yugoslavia, Italy, Norway	50.000
Bohemia, Moravia, Austria	30.000
Foreign jews from different camps in Poland	<u>300.000</u>
totally	<u>1.715.000</u>