

The Post-WWII Massacre of Innocent German POWs in Allied-Run Death Camps

ALTHOUGH BY NOW MOST TBR READERS are aware that perhaps as many as 2 million German soldiers and civilians were killed in post-World War II Allied concentration camps run by the French and Americans, few may know of the fate of hundreds of thousands of Germans imprisoned in camps run by the Soviets, the Poles and the Czechs. In these camps, death was a preferable end to the horrors “detainees” were forced to endure on a daily basis. Historian John Wear brings us up to date on the fate of these forgotten victims of the Allied death machine.

By John Wear

The Allies continued to operate the Third Reich’s concentration camps after World War II, and additional camps, to intern ethnic Germans, were established in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania and Yugoslavia. The existence and operation of these postwar camps is a matter of major historical significance.

While the population of the German concentration camp system had grown from approximately 21,000 at the outbreak of the war to a record peak of over 700,000 at the beginning of 1945, it is possible the number of Germans incarcerated across Europe in similar camps by the end of 1945 may have been even higher.¹

The concentration camps at Buchenwald, Sachsenhausen, Mulberg, Furstenwalde, Liebe-Roze, Bautzen and others were taken over by the Russian Gulag Archipelago. Thus, for example, the camp at Buchenwald was transformed into “Special Camp No. 2” and was operated by the Soviet Union until 1950.²

Conditions at the camps under Soviet control were atrocious. The camps were labeled “special” because the Soviets insisted that the internees be cut off completely

from the civilian population.³ Even Gen. Merkulov, the Soviet official in charge of the concentration camps in Germany, acknowledged the severe lack of order and cleanliness, particularly at Buchenwald.⁴

One former inmate described his five years in the Soviet-run Buchenwald in these words:

People were mere numbers. Their dignity was consciously trampled upon. They were starved without mercy and consumed by tuberculosis until they were skeletons. The annihilation process, which had been well tested over decades, was systematic. The cries and groans of those in pain still echo in my ears whenever the past comes back to me in sleepless nights. We had to watch helplessly as people perished according to plan—like creatures sacrificed to annihilation.

Many nameless people were caught up in the annihilation machinery of the NKVD [Communist secret police] after the collapse of 1945. They were herded together like cattle after the so-called liberation and left to rot in the numerous concentration camps. Many were systematically tortured to death.

A memorial was built for the dead of the Buchenwald concentration camp. A figure of death victims was chosen, based on fantasy. Intentionally, only the dead of the 1937-45 period were honored. Why is there no memorial honoring the dead of 1945-50? Countless mass graves were dug around the camp in the postwar period.⁵

While no one can know the exact number of deaths and number of inmates at Buchenwald, it is reasonably certain a higher percentage of inmates died under Soviet control than under German control. Viktor Suvorov estimates 28,000 people were imprisoned by the Soviets at Buchenwald from 1945-50, of whom 7,000 (25%) died. By comparison, he estimates 250,000 people were imprisoned by the Germans at Buchenwald from 1937 to 1945. Of that number, he estimates 50,000 (20%) died. The Soviet Buchenwald had a higher estimated death rate than the German Buchenwald.⁶

Suvorov's estimates of deaths at Soviet-run Buchenwald are probably understated. Some sources estimate that at least 13,000 and as many as 21,000 persons died in Soviet-run Buchenwald.⁷ Also, a detailed June 1945 U.S. government report of German-run Buchenwald put the total deaths at a lower amount of 33,462, of whom over 20,000 died in the chaotic final months of the war. These total deaths include at least 400 inmates killed in British bombing raids.⁸

Thus, the death-rate percentage at the Soviet-run Buchenwald vs. the German-run Buchenwald is in all probability substantially higher than Suvorov estimates.

Russian estimates show a total of 122,671 Germans passed through Soviet-run camps in the Soviet Zone after the end of the war. Of this, 42,889 Germans died, (approximately 35%). The official Soviet statistics may vastly underestimate the true number of dead in the Soviet-run camps. American military intelligence units and Social Democratic Party groups in the late 1940s and 1950s estimate that a much higher total of 240,000 German prisoners passed through Soviet-run camps in the Soviet zone. Of these, an estimated 95,643 died, or almost 40%.

In these revisions there were 60,000 prisoners at Sachsenhausen, where 26,143 died; 30,600 prisoners at Buchenwald, where 13,200 did not survive; and 30,000 prisoners at Bautzen, where 16,700 died. The higher death counts are supported by discoveries of numerous mass graves of Germans buried near the Soviet-run camps.⁹

No one has ever been punished for the death and mistreatment of German inmates in the postwar Soviet-run



Ike at Buchenwald

Present soon after the "liberation" was Gen. Dwight Eisenhower (shown at Buchenwald) whose communications to Gen. George Marshall in Washington reflect his theory of the "depravity of the Nazis" who created and ran Buchenwald as well as the complicity of local townspeople who claimed ignorance of what was occurring within the camp's barriers. "Ike" explained to Marshall that the conditions of "cruelty and bestiality were so overpowering as to leave me a bit sick" and he noted that even the tough Gen. George Patton "refused to enter" certain rooms at the camp. "Ike" was so appalled by what he claimed he saw that he insisted that Germans who lived nearby be led on tours of the catastrophic conditions many of them explained they did not know existed. He also made arrangements for members of the media and Congress to come to Buchenwald to see for themselves. Thus Eisenhower can in many respects be called the "inventor" of the first holocaust myths. Ironically, Ike created camps that were infinitely worse than anything the Germans had developed or could have conceived, and used them to kill surrendered German POWs ruthlessly by the hundreds of thousands.

camps. The hundreds of thousands of tourists who visit the Buchenwald campsite each year only see museums and memorials dedicated to the “victims of fascism.” There is nothing at Buchenwald to remind visitors of the thousands of Germans who perished miserably in Buchenwald after the war when the camp was run by the Soviet Communists.¹⁰

POLISH-RUN CAMPS

Many of the Germans in Poland were also sent to the former German concentration camps. In March 1945, the Polish military command declared the entire German people shared the blame for starting World War II. Over 105,000 Germans were sent to camps in Poland before their expulsion from Poland. The Polish authorities soon converted concentration camps such as Auschwitz-Birkenau, Lambinowice (called Lamsdorf by its German occupants) and others into internment and labor camps.

In fact, the liberation of the last surviving Jewish inmates of the Auschwitz main camp and the arrival of the first ethnic Germans were separated by less than two weeks.

When the camps in Poland were finally closed, it is estimated as many as 50% of the inmates, mostly women and children, had died from ill treatment, malnutrition and diseases.¹¹

In a confidential report concerning the Polish concentration camps filed with the Foreign Office, R.W.F. Bashford writes: “[T]he concentration camps were not dismantled but rather taken over by new owners. Mostly they are run by Polish militia. In Wietochlowice, prisoners who are not starved or whipped to death are made to stand, night after night, in cold water up to their necks, until they perish. In Breslau there are cellars from which, day and night, the screams of victims can be heard.”¹²

At Lamsdorf in Upper Silesia, a camp population of 8,064 Germans was decimated through starvation, disease, hard labor and physical mistreatment. A surviving German doctor at Lamsdorf recorded the deaths of 6,488 inmates in the camp, including 628 children.¹³ A report submitted to the U.S. Senate dated Aug. 28, 1945 reads:

In “Y” [code for a camp, from the original document—Ed.], Upper Silesia, an evacuation camp has been prepared, which holds at present 1,000 people.

. . . A great part of the people are suffering from symptoms of starvation; there are cases of tuberculosis and always new cases of typhoid. . . Two people seriously ill with syphilis have been dealt with in a very simple way: They were shot. . . Yesterday a woman from “K” [another camp] was shot and a child wounded.¹⁴

Zgoda, which had been a satellite camp of Auschwitz during the war, was reopened by the Polish Security Service as a punishment and labor camp. Thousands of Germans in Poland were arrested and sent to Zgoda for labor duties. The prisoners were denied adequate food and medical care, the overcrowded barrack buildings were crawling with lice, and beatings were a common occurrence. The camp director, Salomon Morel, told the prisoners at the gate that he would show them what Auschwitz had meant.

A man named Guenther Wollny, who had the misfortune of being an inmate in both Auschwitz and Zgoda, later stated, “I’d rather be 10 years in a German camp than one day in a Polish one.”¹⁵

“In the end, Ike made quite sure than over a million surrendered Germans suffered horribly and died.”

SEXUAL ASSAULTS

A notable element of the postwar Polish camp system was the prevalence of sexual assault as well as ritualized sexual humiliation and punishment suffered by the female inmates.

The practice at Jaworzno, as reported by Antoni Biadecki of the local Office of Public Security, was to “take ethnically German women at gunpoint home at night and rape them.” The camp functioned as a sexual supermarket for its 170-strong militia guard contingent.

At the Polish camp at Potulice, the sexual humiliation of female prisoners had become an institutional practice by the end of 1945. Many of the women were sexually abused and beaten, and some of the punishments resulted in horrific injuries.

The exploitation of women in Polish-run camps contrasts sharply to the experience of women in German-run concentration camps. Rape or other forms of sexual mistreatment were extremely rare occurrences at German concentration camps and severely punished by the German authorities if detected.¹⁶

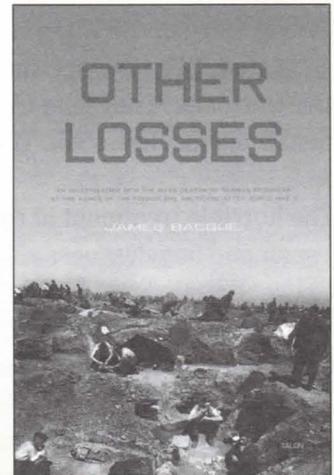
The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) attempted to send a delegation to investigate the atrocities reported in the Polish camps. It was not until July 17,

An Indelible Stain on American Honor . . .

OTHER LOSSES

An Investigation into the Mass Deaths of German Prisoners at the Hands of the French and Americans After World War II

Under the tutelage of the censored U.S. press—newspapers, radio and TV—Americans think of themselves as the most generous and forgiving people on Earth. And we are—to the Israelis, and hundreds of other nationalities which have benefitted from American foreign policy aid and munificence. Too bad that nobody of substance has told them about the atrocities, including mass murder, perpetrated by Dwight David Eisenhower. Instead of praise, Ike should be remembered for his murder of millions of hapless German prisoners after World War II. This blot on the honor of America can never be removed. The appalling story is told by reporters willing to brave the unspoken journalistic taboo of silence when it comes to Ike's crimes. One of these venturesome reporters is the Canadian James Bacque. Bacque has told the chilling story of Ike's mass murder of millions of disarmed, surrendered German soldiers in 1945 in his book *Other Losses*. *Other Losses* (softcover, 324 pages, \$20 plus \$5 S&H in the U.S.) is available from TBR, P.O. Box 15877, Washington, D.C. 20003. Call 1-877-773-9077 toll free to charge. See page 64 for a handy mail-in ordering form. See also at www.barnesreview.com.



1947, when most Germans had either died or had been expelled from the camps, that Red Cross officials were finally allowed to inspect a Polish camp. Yet even at this late date, there were still a few camps the Red Cross was not allowed to investigate.¹⁷

Efforts to bring perpetrators in Polish camps to justice were largely unsuccessful. Czesław Geborski, director of the camp at Lamsdorf, was indicted by the Polish authorities in 1956 for wanton brutality against the German prisoners. Lamsdorf was initially built by Germany to house Allied prisoners of war. Geborski admitted at his trial that his only goal in taking the job was “to exact revenge” on the Germans.

On Oct. 4, 1945, Geborski ordered his guards to shoot down anyone trying to escape a fire that engulfed one of the barracks buildings; a minimum of 48 prisoners were killed that day. The guards at Lamsdorf also routinely beat the German prisoners and stole from them. Prisoners in Lamsdorf died of hunger and disease in droves; guards recalled scenes of children begging for scraps of food and crusts of bread. Geborski was found not guilty despite strong evidence of his criminal acts.¹⁸

CZECH-RUN CAMPS

The Theresienstadt concentration camp in Czechoslovakia was used by Germany to intern many of Germany's, Austria's and Czechoslovakia's most famous or most talented Jews during the war. On May 24, 1945, the Czech government decided to use the Theresienstadt camp to imprison 600 Germans from Prague. Within the first few hours of their arrival between 59 and 70 Germans were brutally beaten to death. Two hundred more of the Germans were reported to have died from torture and beatings within the next few days.

The camp commandant, Alois Prusa, took great pleasure in the beatings, and reportedly used at least one of his daughters to assist him in killing the German inmates. Prusa and his assistant told the remaining Germans they would never leave the camp.¹⁹

Torture appears to have been the rule in Theresienstadt. Guards at Theresienstadt used a variety of instruments for beating and lashing their victims: steel rods sheathed with leather, pipes, rubber truncheons, iron bars and wooden planks. One woman in Theresienstadt ob-

served and still remembers the screams from a female SS member forced to sit astride a dagger.

Dr. E. Siegel, a Czech-speaking medical doctor working for the Red Cross, was also subject to extensive torture in the Theresienstadt concentration camp. Dr. Siegel thought the guards were ordered from above to commit their acts of torture, because the methods used in all Czech camps were broadly similar.²⁰

Much of the savagery at Theresienstadt stopped when Prusa was replaced by a Maj. Kalal.²¹ However, one secret Soviet report said the German inmates at Theresienstadt repeatedly begged the Russians to stay at the camp. The report states: "We now see the manifestations of hatred for the Germans. They [the Czechs] don't kill them, but torment them like livestock. The Czechs look at them like cattle."

The horrible treatment at the hands of the Czechs led to despair and hopelessness among the Germans. According to Czech statistics, 5,558 Germans committed suicide in 1946 alone.²²

Czech author Dr. Hans Guenther Adler, a Jew who was imprisoned during the war in the Theresienstadt concentration camp, confirms that conditions in Czech-run Theresienstadt were deplorable for Germans after the war. Adler writes:

Certainly there were those among them who, during the years of occupation, were guilty of some infraction or other, but the majority, among them children and adolescents, were locked up simply because they were German. Just because they were German? That phrase is frighteningly familiar; one could easily substitute the word "Jew" for "German." The rags given to the Germans as clothes were smeared with swastikas. They were miserably undernourished, abused. . . . The camp was run by Czechs, yet they did nothing to stop the Russians from going in to rape the captive women."²³

After the war, the Red Cross reported that the sexual abuse of female inmates in Czech-run camps was pervasive and systematic. A foreign observer of one Czech camp noted that the women were "treated like animals. Russian and Czech soldiers come in search of women for purposes which can be imagined. Conditions there for women are definitely more unfavorable than in the German concentration camps, where cases of rape were rare." In another Czech camp, the Czech and Soviet sol-

diers would "take away the prettiest girls, who would often disappear without trace."

Jean Duchosal, secretary general of the ICRC, reported that girls were often raped at the Matejovce camp in Slovakia, and that beatings were daily occurrences.

The same was true of the Czech-run camp of Patrónka. A Prague police report of June 1945 mentioned that Revolutionary Guards were in the habit of "exposing women's body parts and burning them with lighted cigarettes."²⁴

SYSTEMATIC STARVATION

A common feature of most Czech-run camps was the provision of so little food to camp inmates as to make not merely malnutrition but actual starvation largely a function of the length of incarceration. The Czech government in 1945 and 1946 contrived as a matter of policy to ensure

that there would be no improvement in the food rations provided to ethnic German inmates, regardless of the availability of food. For example, none of the 4.5 tons of food the Red Cross delivered to the Hagibor camp shortly before Christmas 1945 was issued to the inmates, despite the fact that malnutrition-related deaths were occurring at a rate of three per day.

Richard Stokes, the prominent British Parliament member, visited Hagibor in September 1946 and calculated the daily food ration at Hagibor to be "750 calories per day, which is below Belsen level."²⁵

The Red Cross found that published regulations in Czech-run camps regarding the dietary requirements of inmates were almost invariably ignored. Pierre W. Mock, head of the ICRC delegation in Bratislava, calculated the daily caloric intake of prisoners at Petržalka I camp at 664 per person during the third week of October 1945. The daily caloric intake had declined to 512 per person when Mock returned to the Petržalka I camp in the last week of December. At Novaky, a former German concentration camp, Mock found the milk and bread ration woefully inadequate to feed the population of more than 5,000.

A Red Cross visitor at the Hradistko camp near Prague was informed by the guard in charge of food distribution that the inadequate food ration issued to the inmates was fixed by law and unchangeable. The guard also told the Red Cross visitor that the few Czech children at Hradis-

"In Czech- and Polish-run camps, female inmates were subject to worst kind of barbaric deprivations."

tko received twice as much food as the German inmates. A social worker attempting to ameliorate the worst elements of the Czechoslovak camp system confidentially advised the British Foreign Office in February 1946 that the Czech government would not permit relief supplies to be distributed to the needy German civilian inmates.²⁶

German prisoners at Svidnik camp in Czechoslovakia were also forced to clear away minefields. Strong protests by the delegation of the ICRC at Bratislava eventually succeeded in having this practice stopped.²⁷

In addition, the ICRC sent a general memorandum to the Prague government on March 14, 1946, stating that it held its duty to be to carry out the German expulsions as humanely as possible. In view of the unsatisfactory condition of the camps, the ICRC was of the opinion that provisional internment of Germans in Czechoslovakia should be ended as soon as possible.²⁸

Thus, the German prisoners in postwar Soviet, Polish and Czech concentration camps were subject to brutal treatment—resulting in the loss of many tens of thousands of lives. ◆

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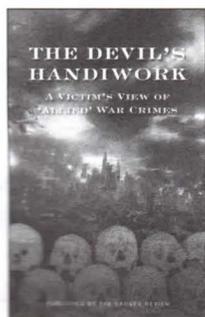
26 *Ibid.*, 144, 146.

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Ike's Legacy

The Lionization of Eisenhower:
Mainstream historians, World War II
apologists gloss over Ike's crimes

Genocidal General Venerated With \$120 Million Memorial

By Michael Collins Piper

It's official. The American taxpayers will foot the bill for a \$120 million memorial to Dwight Eisenhower—a mass murderer with a trail of corruption and intrigue surrounding him that has been suppressed by the controlled media in America which fondly recalls the former president as an iconic war hero-turned grandfather figure.

In fact, "Ike's" entire career was that of being an "available man" whose rise to power was made possible by behind-the-scenes forces that recognized him as a willing asset, eager to do their bidding.

Before first coming to international fame in 1943 when appointed Allied Supreme Commander in Europe by President Roosevelt—promoted over the heads of more than 50 seasoned and far more experienced officers—Eisenhower had previously racked up an otherwise undistinguished career as a behind-the-scenes military bureaucrat.

FDR's unexpected and rather mysterious promotion of Eisenhower sent shockwaves through the military establishment which questioned why Ike—of all people—had been given this huge boost.

Despite the massive logistical superiority of the forces under his command, Ike's first major test—his grand de-

sign for D-Day, the invasion of Europe in 1944—nearly failed. Thousands of soldiers died needlessly, although modern-day media hosannahs to D-Day choose to ignore this stark reality.

After the end of the war, Eisenhower was personally responsible for the deliberate genocide of nearly 2 million German prisoners of war who were starved to death or died of disease and exposure. Ike's prisoners were held in some 19 different outdoor pens (large fields surrounded by con-

"How Dwight Eisenhower has ended up as a national hero is a testament to the power of carefully crafted historical propaganda."

certina wire) in sub-freezing weather without food, water or sanitation—virtually open-air, excrement-filled holes. In one instance, some 560,000 of Ike's victims were crowded into a death trap that, under more humane circumstances, would be fit for holding no more than 45,000 men.

But this was not the extent of his perfidy. Ike also murdered 2 million former Russian prisoners of war who sought to defect to the West to escape the Soviet regime of Josef Stalin. Ike was personally responsible for the order that forcibly "repatriated" the Russian dissidents who were shipped back to the Soviet Union to certain execution.



War criminal Dwight D. Eisenhower is getting a personal monument in Washington, D.C.—a crime in itself.

In 1948, Leonard Finder, a leader of the Jewish Anti-Defamation League (ADL) of B'nai B'rith, ably joined by ADL media assets such as columnists Drew Pearson and Walter Winchell, began promoting Ike for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination, supported by a host of "liberal" leaders such as former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, mob-connected Democratic Party bosses such as Jake Arvey in Chicago and Frank Hague in New Jersey and others.

Eisenhower declined to run as a Democrat that year, but in 1952 he made himself available as the "blocking candidate" for the Wall Street bankers that wanted to prevent popular nationalist Sen. Robert Taft (R-Ohio) from getting the GOP's presidential nomination. Eisenhower, with the help of big money elements, robbed Taft of the party nod at the 1952 GOP convention through a then-infamous array of vote buying, blackmail and intimidation.

Modern media and academic reportage on Eisenhower ignore all of these unpleasant details, but old-time Republicans and American nationalists who remember the work of Robert Taft remember these things well. ♦

Eisenhower: History's Worst Serial Killer?

By Willis A. Carto

Certain individuals are planning to build a memorial in Washington to Dwight D. Eisenhower—a multi-million dollar project to be laid on the backs of American taxpayers.

The project has gotten as far as it has because no one has had the guts to point out that Eisenhower is literally the last person in the world who should be honored by the American people because his record clearly shows him to be a mass murderer.

In addition to his dismal record as a military commander whose appointment by Franklin Roosevelt was purely political and had nothing whatsoever to do with merit, the full facts about this person must be seen, acknowledged and weighed. The most outstanding fact about Eisenhower is his cold-blooded murder of some 2 million German soldiers who had honorably surrendered in 1945.

Instead of treating these soldiers as prisoners of war, as he was bound to do under the Geneva Convention, Eisenhower invented a new category, designating them as "disarmed enemy personnel," thus adopting the doubletalk of a pettifogging shyster lawyer and in his twisted mind justifying his crime.

And then Eisenhower murdered these soldiers, penning them up behind barbed wire and letting them starve to death, subject to the heavy rainfall and the cold winter weather of 1945. He ordered anyone who tried to free them or even feed them to be shot by the armed U.S. guards he stationed around the enclosure.

Doubters must study this. It is truly a horror story. Thanks are owed to the Canadian, James Bacque, for exposing this in his book, *Other Losses: An Investigation Into the Mass Deaths of German Prisoners*, and to Herbert L. Brown in *The Devil's Handiwork*.* ♦

**The Devil's Handiwork: A Victim's View of "Allied" War Crimes.* Dozens of chapters on suppressed history—censored in mainstream history books. Covers the Civil War, Boer War, WWI, WWII, post-WWII crimes of the communists, Operation Keelhaul, Dresden, the Stuttgart atrocity, U.S. crimes in Central America, much, much more. Written by Maj. Herbert L. Brown. Loaded with photos. Edited by John R Tiffany of TBR. Softcover, 275 pages, #529, \$25. See page 7 for an ad for *Other Losses*.