

The Concentration Camps Inside the Nazi System of Incarceration and Genocide

Part 3C: Resistance and Rebellion in Ghettos and Camps

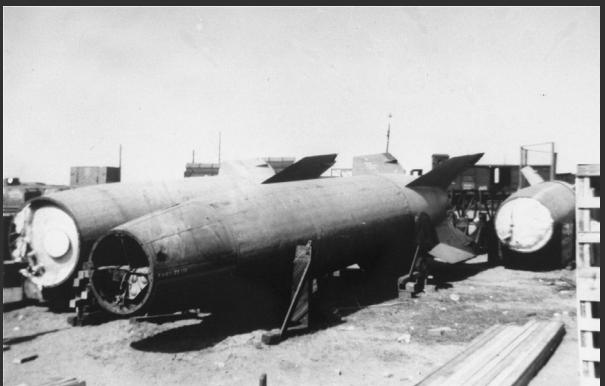
Please be advised that some of these pictures

This document contains historical images

of the Holocaust and the concentration camps.

and descriptions are graphic

and may be disturbing to viewers.



V-2 rockets manufactured at Dora-Mittelbau concentration camp ready for shipment to launching sites. *Photo credit: USHMM #01279*.

At Dora-Mittelbau concentration camp, more than 200 prisoners resisted Nazi oppression by sabotaging productions in the V2 rocket factory that hindered Nazi weapons deliveries.

The resisters were executed by means of public hanging.



Prisoners would often barter items with each other or Nazi guards in order to gather food or other contraband.

Karl Schwesig`s etching of prisoner bartering bread with a civilian for cigarettes. *Photo credit: USHMM #1988.5.16.*



Portrait of Joseph Gani. Photo credit: USHMM.

Joseph Gani, born in Preveza, Greece, was executed in October 1944 after joining a revolt that successfully ambushed SS guards and destroyed crematorium IV at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

He was 18 years old.



SS troops guard members of the Jewish resistance captured during the suppression of the Warsaw ghetto uprising. The original German caption reads: "These bandits offered armed resistance." Photo credit: USHMM #46193.

The Warsaw ghetto uprising began on April 19, 1943 when Nazi soldiers and police entered the ghetto to deport the remaining inhabitants. Jewish inhabitants rose up in defiance of the Nazis, forcing the German forces to withdraw. The German commander then began to destroy the Warsaw ghetto, burning each block of streets. At least 7,000 Jews died during the fighting, while 56,000 Jews were captured and deported to the Treblinka killing center.



A postwar portrait of survivors of the prisoners' uprising in the Sobibor death camp. *Photo credit: USHMM #10625.*

Jewish prisoners successfully revolted in the Sobibor extermination camp on October 14, 1943.

Eleven Nazi guards were killed, and 300 prisoners made it out of the camp, of whom 60 survived the war.



A prisoner uprising took place in the Treblinka extermination camp on August 2, 1943.

Several non-German, auxiliary guards were killed while nearly 200 Jewish prisoners escaped from the camp, of whom 70 survived the war.

Three survivors of the Treblinka uprising walk along a street in Warsaw after the war. *Photo credit: USHMM #66111*.



Nearly 1,000 prisoners tried to escape from Auschwitz-Birkenau. Almost half of them were caught or tracked down and killed, but the other half successfully escaped Nazi captivity. Escape odds were far worse at Treblinka.

Shmuel Willenberg in Warsaw, Poland following his escape from Treblinka. *Photo credit: USHMM #73487.*



There were various acts of resistance in the ghettos. Jewish couriers smuggled food, medicine, and even weapons into the ghettos. Thousands of Jews also escaped and tried to survive outside the ghetto.

Haika Grosman, one of the organizers of the Białystok ghetto underground and participant in the Białystok ghetto revolt. Poland, 1945. *Photo credit: USHMM, courtesy of Moreshet Mordechai Anilevich Memorial.*