

PRAYER / REPENTANCE MEETING IN GOLESZOW

On the 5th of December the Shalom Ministry Association was involved in a prayer/repentance meeting in Goleszow where, in the local cement factory, a subdivision of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp had been located. A large number of people who had on their hearts what took place here 70 years ago, took part in the meeting. Pawel Stanieczek, a retired teacher, explained to us all the drama and tragedy of this place. After his talk all of us who had gathered in the "Oswiecim Hall" watched a documentary film showing and describing the lives of the prisoners who were worked to death in this place. We discovered that the conditions in the Goleszow camp were much worse than in the main mother camp. For this reason there was a very high death rate among the prisoners.

After the showing of the film was the next part of the meeting. We went to all the places where the blood of innocent people was poured out. Their suffering leads us to reflection and repentance for the crimes of those times.

- 1) The area of the former cement factory in Goleszow. In addition to prayer we also celebrated the Lord's supper here.
- 2) The area of the former rock quarry (the Ton lake)
- 3) The statue of the unknown soldier – the woods next to Grabowa Street
- 4) Leszna Gorna – rock quarry

In each of these places we asked God for forgiveness for the outpouring of innocent blood which calls out, like the blood of Abel, to God for justice. Our prayer was that the guilt for this blood would be removed. A married couple from Germany, Andreas and Ina, were with us. As representatives of their country, a country with such a terrible history of destruction in these places and hundreds of other places in Poland, they asked God for forgiveness.

This was the first, and we believe not the last, of this type of meeting. We are grateful to God that it was possible to do this and for the exceptional atmosphere during the whole time of the meeting. As an organization we are thankful to the organizer, Monika Pinkas, and to everyone who had a part in helping towards the success of this project.

There were 47 subdivisions of the mother camp – Auschwitz-Birkenau. As the Shalom Ministry Association in Oswiecim our desire and request is that in each of these places where the subdivisions were located a similar prayer/repentance meeting would be organized.

In ancient Israel, when a murder victim was discovered, the city nearest the scene of the crime was obligated to pray and ask God for forgiveness for the outpouring of innocent blood (Deut.21:1-9)

Below is a list of the subdivisions of KL Auschwitz-Birkenau. We ask the people who live in or near these locations who have the desire to organize prayer for repentance and the forgiveness of the pouring out of innocent blood to get in touch with our association.

List of subdivisions;

- 1)** Altdorf in Stara Wies near Pszczyna. It was in operation in 1942 and 1943. A few hundred prisoners were used for work in the forest. They worked under the direction of Oberforstamt Pless (Pszczyna forestry department)
- 2)** Althammer in Stara Kuzna near Halemba. It was in operation from September 1944 to January 1945. They worked on the construction of a thermal power plant. 486 prisoners.
- 3)** Babitz in Babice near Oswiecim. It was in existence from March 1943 to January 1945. Work on farm lands of the SS. 159 men prisoners and about 180 women prisoners.
- 4)** Birkenau in Brzezinka. In operation from 1943 to January 1945. Work on farm lands of the SS. 204 prisoners.
- 5)** Bismarchhuetten in Chorzow. In operation from September 1944 to January 1945. Work in the steel mill Bismarck producing weapons and armored vehicles for the Berghuetten-Koenigs and Bismarchhuetten AG company. 192 prisoners.
- 6)** Blechhammer in Slawiecice near Blachowna Slask. It was in operation from April 1944 to January 1945. Construction of chemical plants. The O/S Hydrierwerke AG company. 3,958 men prisoners and 157 women prisoners.
- 7)** Bobrek in Bobrek near Oswiecim. In operation from April or May 1944 to January 1945, although prisoners were used from December 1943. Work in factory producing electric equipment for use in airplanes and submarines. The Siemens-Schuckerwerke AG company. 213 men prisoners and 38 women prisoners.
- 8)** Bruenn in Brno (the present Republic of Czech). In operation from October 1943 to January 1945. Work in the finishing of the building of the Technical Academy of the SS and police. Led by the C office in the SS-WVHA – Bauleitung Bruenn. 250 prisoners in October 1943. 36 prisoners in January 1945.
- 9)** Budy in Budy near Oswiecim. In operation from April 1943 to fall 1944. Work on farm lands of the SS. A few hundred women prisoners were used.
- 10)** Budy in Budy near Oswiecim. In operation from April 1942 to January 1945 with a break in the fall and winter of 1942/1943. Work on the farm lands of the SS. 313 prisoners.
- 11)** Budy in Budy near Oswiecim. From June 1942 to spring 1943. Work on the farms of the SS in land improvement and the deepening of fish ponds. 400 sentenced women prisoners.

- 12)** Charlottegrube in Rydułtowy. From September 1944 to January 1945. Work in the “Charlotte” mine for coal production and expansion of the mine. The Hermann Goering Werke Company. 833 prisoners.
- 13)** Chelmek in Chelmek. From October 1942 to December 1942. Work for the shoe factory in cleaning and deepening the water reservoirs. The Ota Schlesische Schuh-Werke company, formerly “Bata”. About 150 prisoners.
- 14)** Eintrachthuetten in Swietochłowice. From May 1943 to January 1945. Work in the steel mill “Eintracht”, in the production of anti-aircraft weapons. The Berghuetten-OSMAG I Ost-Maschinenbau Company. 1,297 prisoners.
- 15)** Freudenthal in Bruntal (present Czech Republic). In operation from 1944 to January 1945. A fruit processing plant of the Emmerich Machold Company. 301 women prisoners.
- 16)** Fuerstengrube in Wesola near Myslowice. From September 1943 to January 1945. Work in the mine “Fuersten” in coal production and the building of new mines. The Fuerstengrube Company GmbH. 1,283 prisoners.
- 17)** Glewitz I in Gliwice. From March 1944 to January 1945. Railway transportation repair. The Reichsbahnausbesserungswerk Company. 1,336 prisoners.
- 18)** Glewitz II in Gliwice. From May 1944 to January 1945. Work in the production of carbon black (women), the repair and maintenance of equipment, expansion of the factory (men). The Deutsche Gasrusswerke GmbH company. 740 men prisoners and 371 women prisoners (Dec.30, 1944)
- 19)** Glewitz III in Gliwice. In operation from July 1944 to January 1945. Work in remodeling the Glewitzer building and then in the production of weapons, ammunition and train wheels. The Zieleniewski-Maschinen and Waggonbau GmbH company, Krakow. 609 prisoners.
- 20)** Glewitz IV in Gliwice. In operation from June 1944 to January 1945. Work on the expansion of the barracks and the repair and rebuilding of army vehicles. 444 prisoners.
- 21)** Golleschau in Golezow. In operation from July 1942 to January 1945. Work in the cement factory of the SS. The Ostdeutsche Baustoffwerke GmbH- Golechauer Portland Zement AG company. 1,008 prisoners.
- 22)** Guenthergrube in Ledziny. In operation from February 1944 to January 1945. Work in the mine today called “Piast” in the mining of coal and building of the “Guenther” mine. The Fuerstlich Plessische Bergwerks AG company. 586 prisoners.

- 23)**Harmense in Harmeze near Oswiecim. From June 1942 to January 1945. Work on the farms of the SS – caring for poultry, rabbits and fish. About 70 prisoners.
- 24)**Harmense in Harmeze near Oswiecim. From June 1942 to January 1945. Work on the farms of the SS – caring for poultry and rabbits. About 50 women prisoners.
- 25)**Hindenburg in Zabrze. From August 1944 to January 1945. Work in the steel mill “Donnersmark” in the production of armored equipment and ammunition. The Vereinigte Oberschlesische Huettenwerke AG company. 50 men prisoners and 470 women prisoners.
- 26)**Hubertshuette w Lagiewniki. From December 1944 to January 1945. Work in the steel mill “Huberts”. The Berghuette Koenigs und Bismarckhuette AG company. 202 prisoners
- 27)**Janinagrube w Libiaz. From September 1943 to January 1945. Work in the mine “Janina” in the mining of coal. The Fuerstengrube GmbH company. 853 prisoners.
- 28)**Jawischowitz in Jawiszowice. From July 1942 to January 1945. Work in the mine “Brzeszcze-Jawischowitz” in the mining of coal and building work on the outside. The Reichswerke Hermann Goering company. 1,988 prisoners.
- 29)**Kobior w Kobior. From 1942 to 1943. Work in the forest under the direction of Oberforstamt Pless (Pszczyna Forestry service). 158 prisoners.
- 30)**Lagischa in Lagisz. From September 1943 to September 1944. Building of the thermal power plant “Walter”. The Energie-Versorgung Oberschlesien AG company. About 1,000 prisoners.
- 31)**Laurahuette in Siemianowice. From April 1944 to January 1945. Work in the steel mill “Laura” in the production of anti-aircraft weapons for the Berghutte-Koenigs und Bismarckhuette company. 937 prisoners.
- 32)**Lichtewerden in Svetla (the present Czech Republic) From November 1944 to January 1945. Work in the thread factory for the G.A. Buhl und Sohn company. 300 women prisoners.
- 33)**Monowitz (from November 1943 the name – Lager Buna – was used) in Monowice near Oswiecim. From October 1942 to January 1945. Prisoners were used there from March/April 1941. Building of the chemical plant of the IG Farbenindustrie AG company. 10,223 prisoners.
- 34)**Neu-Dachs in Jaworzna. In operation from June 1943 to January 1945. Work in the Jaworzna coal mine and in the building of the electric power plant “Wilhelm”. The Energie Versorgung Oberschlesien AG company. 3,664 prisoners.
- 35)**Neustadt in Prudnik. From September 1944 to January 1945. Work in the textile factory at the fabric mill of the Schlesische Feinweberei AG company. 399 women prisoners.

- 36)**Plawy in Plawy near Oswiecim. Probably from 1944 to January 1945. Work on the farms of the SS. 138 men prisoners and about 200 women prisoners.
- 37)**Radostowitz in Radostowice near Pszczyna. From 1942 to 1943 with a break during the winter of 1942-43. Work in the forest under the Oberforstamt Pless (Pszczyna forestry service). About 20 prisoners.
- 38)**Raisko in Rajska. From June 1943 to January 1945. Work on the farms of the SS. Gardening and experimental cultivation of kok-rubber plant. About 300 women prisoners according to records from 1944.
- 39)**Sonderkommando Kattowitz in Katowice. From January 1944 to January 1945. Building of protective barracks for the Gestapo. 10 prisoners.
- 40)**Sosnowitz (I) in Sosnowiec. From August 1943 to February 1944. Office Remodeling of an office building. 100 prisoners.
- 41)**Sosnowitz (II) in Sosnowiec. From May 1944 to January 1945. Work in the smelting of barrels of anti-aircraft weapons and production of ammunition for the Berghuette-Ost-Maschinenbau GmbH company. 863 prisoners
- 42)**Sosnica near Gliwice. From July to August 1940. The tearing down of buildings of former prisoner camps. About 30 prisoners.
- 43)**SS Huette Porombka in Miedzybrod. From October/November 1940 to January 1945. The building and serving of vacation housing for the SS. During the construction work there were 20 to 30 prisoners and later a few women prisoners served the SS.
- 44)**SS Bauzug in Karlsruhe. From September 1944 to October 1944. Work in the clearing the city of rubble and repairing train tracks. They worked under Urząd C w SS-WVHA. About 500 prisoners.
- 45)**Trzebinia in Trzebinia. From August 1944 to January 1945. The rebuilding of a refinery. Under the Erdoel Raffinerie GmbH company. 641 prisoners.
- 46)**Tschechowitz (I) – Bombensucherkommando in Czechowice Dziedzice. From August to September 1944. Removal of bombs from and around the terrain of the refinery. The Vacuum Oil Company. About 100 prisoners.
- 47)**Tschechowitz (II) – Vacuum in Czechowice Dziedzice. From September 1944 to January 1945. Removal of rubble and insuring the safety of the refinery. The Vacuum Oil Company. 561 prisoners.