

Early

Investigative Documents

When the ITS was created in 1948, it had only a few documents. Besides copies of lists of names and reference cards for tracing, most of the documents in Arolsen were investigative records. Since many Nazi crimes were documented poorly or not at all, the ITS initially set out to find proof and evidence itself. For example, in order to gather evidence of the death marches endured by concentration camp prisoners at the end of the war, the ITS questioned thousands of local offices and survivors, researched grave sites and mapped the individual march routes. Many victims of the death marches were identified in this way.

Ländratsamt
UNRRA-Suchstelle
Neunburg vorm Wald

Neunburg v. Wald, den 22. März 1947

Für die Gemeinde Neukirchen-Balbini.

196/61

BETRIFFT: Todesmarsch *H. Reg.*

1. Sind einer oder mehrere Gefangene Transporte während des monates *April 1945* durch Ihre Gemeinde gegangen? ja
2. Falls bejahend, zu welchem Zeitpunkt? 21.4. - 22.4.45
(Wenn möglich, genaues Datum angeben).
3. Aus welcher Richtung kam derselbe? Lager Ploessenbürg
4. Aus wieviel Gefangenen bestand dieser Transport? ca 500 Mann
5. Sind Gefangene beim Durchgang Ihrer Gemeinde gestorben? ja
6. Falls bejahend, wieviel? 100
7. Sind Gefangene in der Nachbarschaft Ihrer Gemeinde gestorben? ja
8. Falls bejahend, wieviel? unbekannt
9. Wo sind diese Gefangene beerdigt? KZ-Friedhof am Ostausgang
10. Von wem sind dieselben begraben worden? *Geistlicher Rat* Neukirchen-Balbini
(Wenn möglich, Angabe des Namens und Anschrift) Neuk.-Balbini
11. Wer pflegt diese Gräber? *Gemeinde* Neukirchen-Balbini
(Angabe des Namens und Anschrift desselben)?
12. Hat der Bürgermeister die Personalien der Gefangenen n. Amtz. registriert, welche im Lager, in der Gemeinde oder in der Nachbarschaft gestorben und begraben worden sind?
13. Kann die Richtung angegeben werden in welcher sich der Transport begeben hat? Transport wurde aufgelöst
14. Ist dieser Transport zu Fuß weitermarschiert oder in Ihrer Gemeinde durch die Bahn abtransportiert worden? Auflösung des Transportes.
15. Sind noch Augenzeuge in Ihrer Gemeinde anwesend, welche Auskunft über solche Transporte aussagen können? ja
16. Falls bejahend, ist Name und Anschrift derselben anzugeben?
 - a) Ehemalige KZ-Ler Alfred Heuter, wohnhaft in Boden -12- Gemeinde Neukirchen-Balbini,
 - b) Händler Josef Lacher, Neukirchner-Balbini Haus Nr. 76

Anmerkung: Beim Bürgermeisteramt Neukirchen-Balbini sind die Gefangenennummern der erschossenen bzw. verstorbenen ehemaligen KZ-Ler registriert.

I.A.

B. Jauer
Sachbearbeiter.



Recovering the Bodies of Death March Victims,
Neunburg vorm Wald, April 29, 1945

During their advance at the end of April 1945, the US Army found the bodies of hundreds of concentration camp prisoners murdered by the SS in Neunburg vorm Wald and the associated town of Neukirchen-Balbini. The liberators confronted the residents with these crimes and ordered them to recover and bury the victims.

Questionnaire for the Town of Neukirchen-Balbini
Regarding a Death March, March 22, 1947

Thousands of questionnaires were sent to German cities and towns to gather information about death marches that had passed through. The ITS used the completed questionnaires to map the individual routes and then searched for clues about the victims.



ITS Map Showing the Death Marches from Flossenbürg Concentration Camp, March 2, 1950

Based on the investigative forms, large-scale maps were produced of the march routes from individual concentration camps. The death march from Flossenbürg to Neukirchen-Balbini is listed seventh in the legend on this map. ITS employees used the maps as tools for tracing and providing information.



Exhumation Register for Wetterfeld Concentration Camp Cemetery, circa 1946

Exhumations were carried out along the routes of death marches from Flossenbürg concentration camp. In cooperation with the town, an UNRRA team recorded all information regarding the identity of those murdered. The original prisoner numbers that had been attached to the clothing of the deceased were pasted into this register.

"tempt. identifi. reburied in cemetery Neunburg v. Wald
former Neukirchen-Balbini made No. 72 370

International Trading Service
Records Branch - Walsen

Attempted Identification of unknown Dead

No. 72 370 died on 21.8.49 in Neukirchen-Balbini re Neunburg v. Wald

Checking - Report		Identification by ITS Records Branch	
Under this number is found in		Possible	Reason
Conc. Camp	Sex - Nationality - Birth Date & place.	(Yes or no)	
Buchenwald	<u>KOPKA, Marceli - Polish</u> <u>2.1.06 Harschan</u>	<u>no</u>	<u>Dec. 13. 44 fr. 59 Krakow</u> <u>Transf. 21.8.49 to</u> <u>Wd. Malahof</u>
Flossenburg	<u>not distributed</u>		
Auschwitz	<u>DEUTSCH, Joel - Belg. Jew</u> <u>17.12.13 Jasina</u>	<u>yes</u>	<u>Dec. 3. 42</u> <u>Transf. 22.1.45 to CC Buchenwald</u> <u>Akko. 510 (No. 118185) ✓</u>
Gr. Rosen	<u>not found</u>	<u>-</u>	

Conclusion: No. 72 370 might be inmate of Conc. Camp Buchenwald

True name & address: DEUTSCH, Joel, Ad. Neukirchen

Walsen: 17.9.50 Prepared by:



ITS Investigative Form for Identifying a Murdered Concentration Camp Prisoner, August 17, 1950

ITS employees compared the prisoner numbers found along the march routes with concentration camp documents. These provided information about the names associated with the numbers as well as about stations of imprisonment. In this case, Joel Deutsch was identified as a probable victim of the death march in Neukirchen-Balbini.

Personal Handwritten Note, Recovered in Plattenberg Concentration Camp Cemetery, November 1949

In November 1949, 140 caskets were opened in a cemetery in Neukirchen-Balbini in order to identify the death march victims buried there. A few items of clothing were found as well as personal notes such as this one, probably the last note from a family to their child: "Behave yourself. We ask God to keep you healthy. Loving kisses. Your parents and siblings."

Joel Deutsch

1913 - 1945

The ITS identified Joel Deutsch as a victim of a death march. He was killed in Neukirchen-Balbini just before the liberation. Joel Deutsch was from a Jewish family from Czechoslovakia which had emigrated to Antwerp, Belgium, in 1932. Under German occupation, he performed forced labor until he and his family were deported to Auschwitz in 1942. The SS murdered his wife immediately on arrival at Auschwitz. Joel Deutsch and his brother were selected for slave labor. The last document showing that he was still alive is a January 1945 Buchenwald concentration camp transport list.



Belgian Alien's Passport for Joel Deutsch, Issued in Antwerp, February 5, 1934

The photo in his alien's passport shows Joel Deutsch as a 20-year-old, barely two years after he moved to Antwerp. As the passport reveals, after emigrating he initially made a living as a tailor.

KONINKRIJK BELGIË
STAD ANTWERPEN
Hoofdstedelijke commissaris
Vreemdelingenbureau
n. 22522

Gesamenlyke Inlichtingensteet. V. N. 2.58-001
Vrouw I. 667.180.

Inlichtingsbulletijn betreffende Vreemdelingen.

Naam en voornamen	Datum en plaats van geboorte	Huidse verblijfplaats	Nationaliteit
De vreemdeling D E U T S C H. Joel.	Jasina (Tsj-Elow) 27 December 1913. Provincielet.	Antwerpen. Tsjeebo- street, n° 242.	Slovaakische
De echtgenote H E L D. Helen (Hélène)	Szropetsk (Hong) 19 Januari 1914.	idem.	idem.

Maat kindere
Dochter van Herson en van HERSOP, bestf. moeder.

I Plaats en datum van aankomst
Berchem(A) op 25 Mei 1937.

Voorwaarde, datum en plaats van getrouwen, adres van het huwelijk
Beloum, geboren te Hersonna (Tsj-Elow) 25.1.1904, wonende te Antwerpen, Provincielet, n° 242.
F H I G O V A, Berthe, geboren te Hersonna (Tsj) in 1885, wonende te Antwerpen by den men.

Wettelijk bevestiging
Beloumgest.

Wettelijke aansluiting in het land
Berchova (Tsj-Slovakye) Besilovitosova, Utsa n° 16.

Laatst vastgesteld in het land
idem voor den man: De vrouws Szropetsk (Hong) Kovosa Utsa 20.
de man: 10 November 1930.
de vrouw: 27 October 1930.

Datum en plaats van aankomst in België
de man: Antwerpen van 10.11.1930 tot 26.5.1934, Provincielet, n° 242. Berchem van 26.5.1937 tot 25.5.1937, Generaal Casimircat, street, n° 36.
Antwerpen van 21.10.1930 tot 24.3.1937, Korte Van Housbroeckstreet, n° 40 Aengenaald Vreemdelingenbureau.
Berchem van 24.3.1937 tot 25.5.1937, Velodroomstreet, n° 55. Gemiddeld Vreemdelingenbureau.

Vreemde verblijfplaatsen
25 Mei 1937.

Datum en plaats van aankomst in de gemeente
25 Mei 1937.

Voor'beleid
aan Huislykboekje n° 101 afgeleverd te Berchem(A) op 25.5.1937
Door den kantonnier van den Burgerlyken Staat.

Aand in de man
Bertha van verlyfverandering, afgeleverd te Berchem(A) op 25.5.1937.

De vrouw
Bericht van vertrek, afgeleverd te Berchem(A) op 25.5.1937.

Form from the Belgian Aliens' Police for Joel Deutsch and Helen Held, June 24, 1937

Five years after arriving in Antwerp, Joel Deutsch, now working as a baker's apprentice, married Helen Held, also from a Jewish emigrant family. His new family status was immediately recorded by the Belgian aliens' police, which kept files on all foreigners.

11. Is hij politiek ongewild?

12. Geving bezwaarschriften, geschied verleden in België of in het buitenland.

13. Is hij voortdurend meer dan 3 maanden in België te vinden?

14. Opmerkingen

Geene veroordelingen in België.
IJU 27 WONSCHTIE, De WAC Bakkerij van Bertep verzoekt in den bezit van de vrouw deet het huishouden.

De man is in bezit van de Identiteitskaart n° 28.828 afgeleverd te Antwerpen op 16.5.1936 geldig tot 16.5.1938.
De vrouw is in bezit van het bewijs van inschrijving in het Vreemdelingenregister afgeleverd te Antwerpen geldig tot 2.5.1937.

FOTO van den MAN

FOTO van de VROUW

Is administratieve verkeer geen enkel verandering in heten opgegeven.

Aankomst den 24 Juni 1937.
In 1937.

Handtekening van den commissaris
Gustave Joël

GERELIJK AFNEMEN van den RECHTER WISTINGER van den echtgenoot van de echtgenote