

Lernen aus der Geschichte e.V.

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Das mehrsprachige Webportal publiziert fortlaufend Informationen zur historisch-politischen Bildung in Schulen, Gedenkstätten und anderen Einrichtungen zur Geschichte des 20. Jahrhunderts. Schwerpunkte bilden der Nationalsozialismus, der Zweite Weltkrieg sowie die Folgegeschichte in den Ländern Europas bis zu den politischen Umbrüchen 1989.

Dabei nimmt es Bildungsangebote in den Fokus, die einen Gegenwartsbezug der Geschichte herausstellen und bietet einen Erfahrungsaustausch über historisch-politische Bildung in Europa an.

Student Report: The Moringen Concentration Camp

The present state hospital in Moringen was then a concentration camp for Germans. It was among the first in Germany. It was a concentration camp for men in 1933, when Hitler came to power, for women from 1933-38, and for youth during the last five years of the war. Young people between ten and sixteen were sent to the camp for various reasons: having Jewish friends, listening to swing music, not joining the Hitler Youth, being incorrigible or having stolen.

Many of the young people complained of hunger. This was not surprising, because they got very little food. For breakfast, there was one piece of bread, a bit of margarine, a tablespoon of marmelade and coffee substitute. For lunch, they got watery soup with partly rotten vegetables, and now and then a little meat. In the evening, there was watery soup again.

At times, when some of the guards would get drunk and run around in the concentration camp at night, they would get some of the youths out of their rooms and make them stand facing the wall for six hours. Some of them collapsed and lay on the cold ground in their pajamas, and got bladder infections or other infections. Often they would then wet their beds.

Ten percent of the 1,700 youths in the camp died. Fifty-five of them are buried at Moringen.