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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.

Article by Wulf Petzholdt from the July 22, 1991, issue of the "AZ (Abendzeitung) München" ["Munich Evening News"].

"AZ" introduces student newspapers

The Outer Camp of Dachau Concentration Camp — a Search for Clues

Controversial local research at the Gymnasium

Hitler and the consequences: This, too, is a theme for student newspapers, which the "Abendzeitung" will present in rough sequence. It became explosive local history for Anke Doerrzapf, 17, in Bad Aibling. She describes her search for clues to a "forgotten" subcamp to that at Dachau in "Aiblizissimus" [title of the school magazine]. She was prompted to do this by an "AZ" report on the terrible fate of Lissi Block, a Bavarian Anne Frank, who lived very close to this concentration camp near Rosenheim.

It was in Haidholzen, first as a barracks, then as a camp of 200 Jews. Extermination through overwork, that was how their lives ended, as did those of 600,000 forced workers — including those working at AEG, Dornier, and Siemens. Many of them, no longer able to work due to hunger and illness, were sent to Auschwitz. To the gas chambers.

Anke Doerrzapf first noticed a building with typical Nazi architecture in Haidholzen. That was the garrison headquarters; today it is the administrative office of a candy factory. Next to is an enormous hall. Only one of the prisoners' barracks is still standing, disguised with bright paint and flowers. Since the end of the war, refugees from the Sudetenland have lived here.

"The *Wehrmacht* [Army] was here once," they say to Anke. And a concentration camp? "No, there certainly wasn't anything like that" — always the same answer. From older residents, too. Even though the prisoners were often to be seen outside, working on the railroad, or during truck transports through Rosenheim.

The Protestant pastor had heard something about a concentration camp once, "just as a rumor." He wants to help Anke with her research, and calls his Catholic colleague, but this man too, says, "There was nothing here." Because there would never have been a concentration camp where the army was.

In the community office Anke finds a printed local history. It is two hundred pages long, but without a word about a concentration camp; only an "army camp" is mentioned. And a lot about the "endless suffering" of the Sudeten Germans who have moved here. The chronicle goes into detail only when it refers to the "lively cultural life," the theater, and the singing club of the Nazi functionaries who were interned here after 1945 by the Americans.

Anke finds the author of the local history, a teacher. "It was a concentration camp for Nazis," he says — and later, "There was no concentration camp here, just concentration camp inmates who were brought here to work."

They slaved here for BMW. The mayor had wanted to find out more from BMW headquarters in Munich after he saw the documentation on the Haidholzen subcamp in the museum at the concentration camp museum at Dachau. BMW wrote back that "unfortunately" no one there knew much about Haidholzen anymore. A copy of the list about the work in the subcamp is enclosed. Anke says, "Interestingly, the copy is so poor that one can hardly read anything on it."

Still, the mayor now wants to erect a memorial for the victims of extermination through work. Although some citizens grumble that this memorial could be leveled at the "accomplishments" of the *Wehrmacht*.

Only one Haidholzen prisoner could be found after 1945. He lives in Poland, and no longer remembers the names of the SS guards. These, however, are given in a two-and-a-half page long list among the concentration camp documents at Dachau. Anke's report ends, "These names have been made unreadable by being crossed out with thick black lines. On grounds of protection of information, not everyone is allowed to find out what they are."