

Lernen aus der Geschichte e.V.

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Der folgende Text ist auf dem Webportal
<http://www.lernen-aus-der-geschichte.de> veröffentlicht.

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.

Questions and working steps of the small groups

What happened at Peenemünde between 1939 and 1945?

We investigated which important data exist in connection with the development of Peenemünde. These data tell us what happened from 1939 onwards, from the beginning of planning the production plant as an important part of the Peenemünde test institute up to the taking-over of the area by the Soviet army. We found important information in the exhibition and in the catalogue that goes with it.

Who worked in the research institute and what do we know about forced labour in Peenemünde?

A great variety of workers was needed for the construction and maintenance of the military research institute Peenemünde. In order to solve this problem, the number of foreign workers was increased. Not only voluntary workers were used at Peenemünde. Prisoners of war, forced labourers and concentration camp prisoners were also used; these labourers were accommodated in separate camps. We marked the different camps on the map.

What kind of camps existed at Peenemünde and what happened to the concentration camp prisoners?

-Concentration camp II in Karlshagen Some prisoners only stayed for a few months at Peenemünde. For example: the concentration camp prisoners that were imprisoned on the ground floor of the production hall of the serial production, were deported to the concentration camp Dora-Mittelbau in the Harz Mountains on 13 October 1943, after the bomb raid in August 1943.

-Concentration camp I in Karlshagen The dissolving of the camps at Peenemünde was started in mid-February 1945. On 13 February 1945, 922 prisoners from Peenemünde arrived at Dora-Mittelbau. On 18 February 1945, another transport of 351 prisoners was taken to the extension camp at Barth. Another transport of about 200 prisoners is supposed to have taken place on 28 March

1945. They were first brought to Warnemünde, and from there to Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. In the beginning of April 1945, about 200 prisoners were deported to Dora-Mittelbau, close to Nordhausen. They arrived there after 3 to 4 days. 40 prisoners died during the deportation due to the terrible conditions in the wagons.

What happened in our region after 8 May 1945?

This is what happened at Peenemünde after the take-over of the research institute by the Soviet Army until 1958, when the airport grounds were handed over to the Nationale Volksarmee of the GDR (national peoples' army): We found out that dismantling by the Soviet Army took place in two stages. We know that the dismantling of the Peenemünde research institute started on 17 August 1945 and that the last building was blown up in the summer of 1948.

How was the 8 May commemorated in the GDR? How and where was the day of liberation from Hitler fascism commemorated in the GDR?

Our Power-Point presentation shows in which areas and in which manner this commemoration day was organised. For example, wreaths were laid down at the Karlshagen memorial.