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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.

Memories of Wittenberge:

On January 8th, 1943, I was transferred from the concentration camp Neuengamme to Wittenberge, along with 75 others. The camp had 500 inmates. We worked on a construction site, under the most difficult conditions; we had to build a factory for processing straw and other materials. The construction was just beginning. My job was to pour concrete for the foundation. We had to work from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., with a one-hour lunch break, when we got one liter of turnip soup. Each morning we got 240 grams of bread for the whole day: 120 grams for the morning and 120 for the evening. After work we were brought back to camp and had to stand for roll call. That could take one or two hours, depending on the mood our camp leader was in. In cold weather, we had to stand outside without hats. The barracks were unlocked at 10 p.m., and we were allowed to 'rest' until 5 a.m. The barracks were unheated. After the signal to go to bed, the *Kapos* ('camp police') would get violent, especially one called 'Goose', and the head *Kapo*, Bruno. Those were brutish men with a criminal record. They had green triangles on their camp uniforms. They woke us up at night, forced us into the washrooms and hosed us down with cold water.

From 1943 to 1945, a straw-processing complex was built, literally on the bones of the prisoners. But the construction chief was actually quite nice. He treated the prisoners humanely. In 1944, a new head of the camp came, and the camp regulations were loosened a bit. We also got a new block chief. I often worked with civilian engineers. They were nice, and sympathetic toward us. Sometimes they even brought bread. However they didn't give it to us directly, but only showed us where it was. I think they also yearned for the end of this horror.

Ivan Fjodorovitch Karpenko, letter of January 1999.

from: Herbert Dierks. *"Verschleppt nach Deutschland! Jugendliche Häftlinge des KZ-Neuengamme aus der Sowjetunion erinnern sich."* ("Deported to Germany! Soviet Former Prisoners of Neuengamme Remember their Youth in the Camp"). Published on behalf of the *Freundeskreises KZ-Gedenkstätte Neuengamme e.V.* ('Friends of the Neuengamme Memorial Site') and the Neuengamme Memorial Site. Bremen, 2000: S. 99-100.